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THE REFORM BILL.

It becomes plainer, as Lord John's measure is more studied, that he has sacrificed everything to the simplification of it. To avoid a fight with borough members he spares boroughs. To tranquillise the country he avoids the appearance of extensive change. He shirks the minute trouble which a system of what are absurdly called "fancy franchises" would impose on him. And hence all that is important in his measure is the lowering of the standard of voting to £6 in the boroughs. This is the peculiarity of the new bill. It is the six-pounders' bill. Either it will give us a Parliament the same as the present, or a Parliament differing from it in proportion to the difference between the six-pounder and the existing voter.

It is characteristic of the kind of way in which we set about reforming the country that nobody exactly knows what kind of man the six-pounder is. Mr. Bright deals only with numerical considerations. He tells the House that of so many male adults in the nation so many have votes, and that the number is too small. When asked if the six-pounders will swamp the boroughs, he says "No; the ten-pounders have not;" but does not give us the least hint what kind of men the new men are. The *Times* asks the question occasionally, and seems to think that no data for furnishing an answer exists. This is a pleasant prospect. We are busying ourselves, in an agitated time, and to the exclusion of other reforms, with the admission to what must be a considerable share of power of a class with which we have scarcely any acquaintance.

The exact degree of power given to the said class, meanwhile, is also a somewhat obscure point. Authorities differ as to the numbers which the bill will add to the constituencies. Some say 257,000; others only 170,000. What seems clearest is, that the change will be far less in the metropolitan boroughs than elsewhere. But that in some boroughs the numbers will be doubled is pretty generally admitted. And though, from the ignorance above alluded to, nobody can predict what kind of member the additional voters will prefer to the present kind,

still the power of changing the type will exist among them, and may be usefully speculated upon.

At all events, one thing is certain about the six-pounder—he is, as far as money tests can tell, so much per cent socially inferior to the present voter. Now, in the case of the mass of the community, a money test is a more effective standard of measurement than among the upper classes. There are gentlemen with £300 a year far better educated than those of £3000; and some of small means whose social position is higher than that of richer men. But, among the working men of the country, the best educated are, on the whole, the best paid, and the work which only requires physical strength the worst. Indeed, it stands to reason that among those classes the best educated should be the best paid; since the qualities by which alone such men can have any knowledge worth speaking of involve the qualities which it is the employer's interest to pay well. We do not, now, compare the artisan with the tradesman, for tradesmen as a class already do possess the suffrage, and may be left out of the question. We compare them amongst each other, and say that the six-pounder working man is more likely to be really inferior to the ten-pounder ditto than the tradesman of sixty to the tradesman of a hundred, the gentleman of three hundred to the gentleman of six, and so on through society.

But now observe another feature of an extension of the suffrage, based only on a reduction of the rate of qualification. The ten-pound limit includes every variety of person up to the richest and highest commoner in the kingdom. By right of a house at and above that sum thousands of all classes vote, and a thousand hues of difference diversify the whole. This cannot be the case with the classes from six to ten upwards, when viewed as different from the said body. Mr. Bright tells us they differ in views and feelings amongst each other like other people. No doubt they do, but not to anything like the same extent. They have not so many subjects of knowledge and interest to differ about. Their information is limited by a narrower circle,

and their occupations confined within a narrower range. Their strongest interest, too—as living by certain labours which often unite them in masses—draws them together very closely. We have seen that in the strikes. Besides, the same class of reading, when they do read, unites them, for there is much more uniformity of tone among the very cheap than among the dearer periodicals of the country. Any competent observer may satisfy himself of this without much trouble.

Well, then, it may be assumed that on certain occasions the new voters are likely to act together *en masse*, and it is admitted that in several places they would be able, under the new measure, to carry the day. This would lead to "class legislation" of a kind such as has never yet been seen in England. And it is against this that so-called "fancy franchises"—that is to say, franchises based not on house rent but on other tests of means, and on education—are necessary, and would be useful. For, as we have often said, the Constitution has never contemplated the representation of numbers only. To make a somewhat fanciful comparison, it has had the social body represented as the human body might be, not every drop of blood *per se*, but all the organs and limbs notwithstanding. A town has a member to sit for it, as a town, and may be effectually represented, though every human being within its limits has not had a chance of saying "yes" or "no" about the particular senator. But it is easy to fancy a case in which the poorer householders might have a class motive for returning a man over the head of everybody else, and this would be mischievous. What is worse, too, it would be mischievous, not to the rest of the town, but to the voters themselves. Let us suppose a member who only represents a strike. His expected return would terrify away the capital of the place, and probably ruin the manufacture or other industry by which the very voters who had done the mischief lived. That successful strikes have had such an effect in Ireland (on the whole, they have failed in Britain) is well known.

While, however, these are the extreme possibilities that might arise from a suffrage extended only by lowering the house-rent



COUNTRY PEOPLE OF TUSCANY, HEADED BY THEIR CURÉ, ON THEIR WAY TO RECORD THEIR VOTES FOR ANNEXATION WITH PIEDMONT

standard, we are far from asserting that they would happen at once, and under ordinary circumstances. We by no means fear the intentions or disposition of the people, but only the effect of their ignorance in particular crises of excitement, and the use that would be made of that by designing agitators. Under ordinary circumstances, as we believe, the six-pounders will bring in just the kind of men in the boroughs (where they will be strongest) that the present voters do; that is to say, such rich men as, being accepted by the rich classes, will make the profession of advanced opinions usually made as things are. Of course the aspiring young genius of the place, not connected with the rich classes, will be as far from being returned as ever. Indeed, the power of the unit will, for common purposes, be no way increased; even the corrupt unit will find his bribe diminished by the increased and extended competition. As for the effects of the increased suffrage on the Executive, it will take years before they can be judged of. Those of the first Reform Bill, even, are still imperfectly known; for what is thirty years in the history of a Parliament six hundred years old, and which six hundred years ago more effectually represented the nation (without pretending to govern it) than it did within the lifetime of many a person now alive?

Such are our views on the essence of Lord John Russell's bill. How far we may hope to have the bill modified remains to be seen.

VOTING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF TUSCANY TO PIEDMONT.

THE will of the population of Central Italy has as length been made known, and it has expressed itself universally for annexation to the crown of Victor Emmanuel, *il Re galant uomo*. The places for voting had two large salvers or open baskets, with tickets or *schede*, as they are called, on one side for "annexation," on the other for a "separate kingdom;" but the basket exhibiting the latter seemed to have remained untouched. A gendarme might be seen here and there among the crowd, unarmed, and in his foraging cap and undress jacket, a mere spectator, without any other apparatus of public or private force. Bands of 500 or 600 men collected together with waving flags and their *cure*s at their head, and proceeded to their particular hustings and voted *en masse*. The only sound to be heard was the measured tread of the voters, so perfectly silent was the order of their march. In one ward not only was the urn set up in the parish church of the place, but the priest had even purposely and with great solemnity hoisted on the altar the consecrated host, that the voters should know they stood in the "real presence" of God, agreeably to their belief, and that they should vote according to the best dictates of their conscience.

The voting itself was the simplest thing in the world, and the most orderly, but one could scarcely call it secret. Let us take, for instance, the section comprising the names beginning with the letter M. You go up one of those large staircases which you see only in Italy, and which would almost contain a modern house, roof and all; in the passage up stairs is an individual who relieves you of canes, umbrellas, and other offensive weapons; you open the door and find yourself in a large hall of the sixteenth century, painted with armorial bearings of the different members of the family, paved with marble mosaics, and hung with a series of family portraits, which seem to look down with curious astonishment on the proceedings below. Especially one gentleman in a red robe looks intensely on an iron stove which has been placed temporarily in the middle of the hall to take off the chill of that mass of stone. Almost opposite the door is a long table about which are standing a dozen gentlemen or so with their great-coats and their hats on. The table is covered with several large register-books and writing materials in the centre of it. Before the table is a wooden box about four feet high, on the top of which you perceive four seals, and in the middle of it a slit something like that in a poor-box. Two gentlemen are always at the side of it watching it as if it contained a treasure. The voter comes in not quite knowing where to go to. He is directed to go to the table. A gentleman asks him politely for his name. It is the president of the section. The register of names is opened, a sign is made when the name of the voter is found, and the latter puts in his *schède*. It disappears in the sealed box, because the form requires it; but the vote is no secret, for almost every one without exception carried his vote in his hat or cap, and took it off to put it into the box, and on every ticket the vote was for annexation.

AN EXECUTION IN STAMBOUL.—The wife and her lover, the murderer of the late Ferik Ibrahim Pacha, have suffered "the last penalty of the law." The *Levant Herald* says:—"As the sentence of the condemned couple had been confirmed several days before by the Sultan, it would have been immediately carried into effect but for the difficulty of finding an executioner—the popular feeling as to such services being now widely different from what it was in the 'good old times' when the bowstring and the scymetar were seldom a day unused. At last, however, the (considered) high wages of 500 piasters induced a gipsy to undertake the job, and on Sunday morning, accordingly, this now unusual tragedy was performed in the area in front of the fowl-shops beyond the Karakani bridge. Shortly after five o'clock (Frank time) the prisoners were brought from the Zaptieh prison, under a guard of soldiers and cavalries—the man on foot, with his hands tied behind him, the woman in a sedan-chair. On arriving at the end of the bridge the guard formed into a half-circle, shutting out the crowd of fifty or sixty people who had gradually gathered on the way from the Zaptieh. The woman was then handed out of the chair, and, from the sudden tremor which seized on her, after catching sight of the two upright poles with their grim crossbeam, and the movements of preparation amongst the guard, it was evident that what could at most have been only a suspicion in her mind before then flashed into a terrible certainty. She moaned piteously at first, then broke into a low cry of '*Amin, amin!*' (Mercy, mercy!), and asked what they were going to do with her. She was told—'Merely to exile her'; and thus, partly quieted, though still moaning and quivering with terror, was led into the old black wooden khan at the corner of the street. There she was immediately seized and pinioned, screaming and struggling fearfully the while, till the noose, rapidly slipped over her head and pulled at either end by a cavass, had done its quieting work. The body was then carried out and hung up on the frail gallows prepared for it. Whilst this half of the tragedy had been in course of accomplishment within the khan the male culprit had suffered his punishment outside. As soon as the woman was removed into the building an officer read aloud a statement of the prisoner's crime and sentence—then announced to the wretched man for the first time. He was then told to kneel down, which he did, stretching forward his neck without hesitation or resistance, but looking, as a bystander remarked, like a man who had died yesterday. The gipsy then drew his yataghan (a heavy inward-curving blade) and struck a single-handed blow close to the shoulder-end of the neck; the criminal fell over on his face and made a few convulsive struggles, but three additional hacks from the sword of a cavass at length severed the head entirely from the trunk, and completed the judicial butchery. The head was then placed, face up, by the side of the body, which, with that of the woman, remained exposed to view throughout the day, with placards announcing their crime stitched to the front of both. Since last week we have been informed that the jealousy and not an intrigue with the male murderer had been the motive of the woman's share in her husband's death."

AFFAIRS OF NAPLES.—An interesting correspondence respecting the affairs of Naples was laid upon the table of the House of Commons on Monday night. It extends from June 22, 1859, to March 19, 1860, and consists of letters which have passed between Lord John Russell and Mr. Elliot, chiefly with reference to the various arbitrary arrests which have been made by the Neapolitan Government and the generally prevalent abuses of its internal administration. These documents clearly show that, without in any case exceeding the limits of friendly expostulation, the British Cabinet has earnestly striven, and, in some instances, with success, to procure a relaxation of the excessive rigours of arbitrary rule. On the other hand, its remonstrances, though they have been efficacious in individual cases, have produced but little change in the policy of the Court of Naples, since, at the latest period to which the correspondence comes down, we find M. Carafa maintaining the perfect justice of arresting, and imprisoning without trial, citizens against whom the Crown fancied that it has grounds of suspicion, though these would confessedly be insufficient to secure a conviction in a court of justice.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

Measures in preparation for the formation of a camp at Chalons, a step indicating a feeling of uneasiness in the French Government on the side of the north-eastern frontier of France, are going on noiselessly, but actively. At the same time we have to record that a few days since the *Moniteur* contained a report of the Minister of War proposing—"as the ideas of war are receding"—to reduce the effective of the battalions of Chasseurs from eight to six companies, the force which existed before 1853. The report is followed by a decree of the Emperor approving the Ministerial proposal.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

The *Correspondencia Autografa* contains the following:—"As the Moors will only consent to pecuniary sacrifices as the conditions of peace, the war must be continued."

The encounter of the 11th inst. is thus described in the *Hoja Suelta* of Algeiras:—

On the 10th instant the inhabitants of one of the small villages in the immediate vicinity of Tetuan petitioned the Commander-in-Chief to afford them protection against the robberies and depredations of certain Kabyles who were prowling about that neighbourhood. The Duke of Tetuan dispatched General Echaguet at the head of his division to render the assistance required, and these troops arrived in time to meet the enemy and repulse him after a slight skirmish, during which the Spaniards had a few wounded and the Moors many killed.

Infuriated by this defeat the Moors prepared to take revenge on the Spaniards on the 11th, by surprising the troops during the celebration of mass, and accordingly, while this ceremony was taking place at headquarters, the Moors suddenly attacked two battalions of General Prim's division which had been stationed in an advanced position to check any attack that might be attempted. The Moors presented a force of 15,000 men, the greater part cavalry, and it became necessary to bring up the 1st and 2nd divisions, as also the divisions of the reserve, to bear against them. The action lasted for some hours, when finally the Moors were repulsed with great loss. Special mention is made of the Spanish cavalry, which is said to have distinguished itself by three brilliant charges. The commander of the Albuera Regiment of Cavalry was taken prisoner by the Moors. The loss of the Spaniards in this affair is said to consist of 57 killed and 203 wounded; among the latter eight officers.

ITALY.

SARDINIA.

Fifty thousand men are about to be levied in Tuscany, and 25,000 in the *Emilian* provinces, which will increase the Sardinian army to nearly 300,000 men. It is asserted that Piedmont is about to contract a loan of 150,000,000.

It is asserted that Count Cavour will take the portfolio of the Marine. The *Opinione* states that Prince Carignano will leave for Florence on the 26th inst.

NAPLES.

From Naples, where our squadron has arrived (to back, it is said, demands of reform once more put upon the King of Naples by our own Government, in conjunction with that of France), the news is, that six Neapolitans have been sent into exile, that the Court of Vienna and the Ambassadors of England and France have exhorted the King not to have recourse to such measures, and that an Austrian General, on a special mission, had arrived. The Government is preparing a general mobilisation of the rural guard. General Filanghieri having insisted upon tendering his resignation, Prince Casaro will replace him in the Cabinet.

Letters from the frontier announce increased agitation. A popular manifestation has taken place at Atri. Banners were displayed bearing the words "Victor Emmanuel for ever!" The police checked the revolt. Eighty persons who were compromised fled over the frontier.

ROME.

A rumour had spread on Monday in the French capital of a demand made by the Pope for the withdrawal of the French troops from Rome, and even of the commencement of the march of a part of the Neapolitan forces destined to replace them. A telegram has since been received from Rome eagerly denying the truth of this report in every point. Another version is to the effect that the French Government itself is making preparations for having the garrison of Rome removed to France by degrees, intending to leave Sardinia and Naples to fight out between them who is to occupy the Holy City; and that, consequently, all the present expostulations of the French Government with that of Sardinia, on account of the Romagna and Tuscany, are mere feints.

A manifestation in favour of the Pope took place on the 16th. The official *Giornale di Roma* says that the Pope, in proceeding to the Basilica of the Vatican, was met by an immense multitude of citizens of all classes, united to pray with the common Father of the Faithful. The number of persons present was estimated at 5000, and included many persons of note. No cry of opposition was heard. Next day, however, bills were scattered in the streets headed "Viva Vittore Emanuele!" A project was started of a counter-manifestation on the 19th—the fête of Garibaldi; but it seems to have been kept within very moderate limits by General Goyon.

The Director of the Public Debt has left Rome for Brussels to contract a loan of 10,000,000.

AUSTRIA.

Austria, considering the annexation of Central Italy to Piedmont as a flagrant violation of the Treaty of Zurich, which formally reserved the rights of the deposed Princes, has resolved to adjourn the renewal of official relations with the Court of Turin.

M. Steiger, the Swiss Chargé d'Affaires at this Court, has presented a circular note to Count Rechberg, in which the Federal Council protests to the Powers who guaranteed the Treaties of Vienna against any measure having for its object the incorporation of Chablais and Faucigny with the French empire. Count Rechberg replied that Austria reserves her definitive reply until she has ascertained the views of Europe; but he reminded M. Steiger that last year, when the French troops were conveyed by railroad from Culoz to Chambéry, the Austrian Cabinet in vain represented to Switzerland, as well as to the great Powers, that the neutrality of that part of Savoy should be respected. By the passage of the French troops that neutrality was openly violated, contrary to the Treaties of 1815.

At Vienna the French Government has given notice that its troops will leave Lombardy, and has expressed the hope that Austria will adhere to the promise made at Villafranca to abstain from any interference in non-Austrian Italy. To this the Emperor has assented. He has, however, instructed his Minister to draw the attention of France to the intrigues carried on by Sardinian agents, and by the Ministers themselves, to alienate Venetia from the Austrian empire, against which project Austria, so says the reply, would at once draw the sword.

The *Wiener Zeitung* gives the following account of a political demonstration which was made on the 16th at Pesth:—

According to advices from Pesth, about 200 students, who had in vain attempted to force their way into several churches in the course of the morning of the 15th of March, went to the cemetery in the *Franzensstadt*. The crowd was desired quietly to disperse; but, as no attention was paid to the official summons, the police, to prevent further excesses, was obliged to arrest several persons.

In consequence of this measure the crowd began to move towards the Kerepesh Cemetery, and, as the employees of the police sought to prevent its effecting its purpose, the officer of police and his men were derided. This conduct rendered further arrests indispensable, and the police were at last obliged to make use of their arms, as an attack was made on them with the intent to liberate the prisoners. Unfortunately, some persons were wounded.

The inhabitants of Pesth had nothing whatever to do with the affair, and, as the peace of the city was in no other way disturbed, the soldiers of the police were able completely, and without other assistance, to enforce the law. In the evening the students tried to keep the public from entering the national theatre, and, the interference of the authorities and mounted police proving ineffectual, a "division" (two companies) of regular troops was called out, which cleared the place. The peace of the city was not again disturbed.

PRUSSIA.

A letter from Berlin, dated the 16th instant, says:—Our Cabinet has forwarded to Paris, relative to the Savoy question, a

declaration which explains, while waiting for those of the other great Powers its objections on the subject of the incorporation of Savoy and Nice. The observations made in this document refer partly to principles, partly to material facts. As regards principles, Prussia points out how dangerous appear to it the application of theories of "natural frontiers," "universal suffrage," &c. As regards the fact itself, Prussia declares openly that the cession of the slopes of the Alps to France seriously weakens the security of the frontiers of Switzerland and of Germany. Naturally, this communication, which is isolated, and not supported by any other Power, is couched in very moderate terms. It cannot be looked upon as a protest against the annexation.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg arrived at Berlin on the 12th, where an interview took place—considered as full of meaning—between him and the Prince Regent; and it is said that the Duke will afterwards proceed to London.

The question of the suspended Constitution of 1831 of Hesse-Cassel, for which another Constitution was illegally introduced in 1852, has at last come before the German Federal Diet. The proposition of Prussia to re-establish the Constitution of 1831 has been rejected by the majority, on the ground of the incompetency of the Diet in the matter.

RUSSIA.

It is reported that Prince Gortschakoff, who for some time past has been seriously ill, will, on his own demand, be shortly released from his duties as Minister for the Foreign Affairs of Russia, and that Baron de Budberg, Russian Minister at Berlin, will be his successor.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The Grand Vizier has undertaken a reorganisation of the law courts. Against expectation, the Porte has consented to recognise Prince Michael Obrenowitch of Servia as successor to his dying father, Milosh.

Sir Henry Bulwer lately assembled the diplomatic corps, and spoke in favour of a projected tax on European house rents. The Ambassador of Russia strongly opposed the project, and by his arguments convinced some of his colleagues.

A skirmish between the Servians and the Turks took place on the Servian frontier on the 7th inst., in which twenty of the former were killed.

AMERICA.

The disturbed state of the frontiers of Texas has created some discussion in the American Senate. A Washington telegram of the 6th says:—

The President to-day replied to the Senate's resolution calling for information in reference to the present condition of affairs in the Rio Grande. Among the documents is a letter from General Houston, dated Austin, Feb. 15, addressed to the Secretary of War, in which he says he deplors the situation of Texas—with an empty treasury, her unexampled Indian troubles for the last ten years, and the forays of Mexico on her southern border; and asks, in the name of humanity, if the Federal arm shall not be speedily raised and extended in behalf of her suffering frontiers. Should this not be done, he says he will in a short time be compelled to resort to the indefensible right of self-defence to protect the border, not only to defeat the enemy, but to prevent the recurrence of similar disorders on the frontiers. Texas can and will, if applied to, in thirty days be able to muster in the field 10,000 men, who are anxious, embarrassed as her finances are, to make reclamations upon Mexico for all her wrongs. Can she hope for aid from the Federal Government? The Secretary of War, in a letter to the President of the 5th of March, says the call of General Houston is the first which has yet been made by the authority of Texas for any assistance in these disturbances from the Government; no doubt because it was considered by them up to this time as a matter involving local laws and interests rather than such as pertained to the honour and integrity of the confederacy. But upon the call of the Governor of Texas, and upon the undeniable proof of the gross outrages committed on our soil, the Secretary says he has not hesitated to order a concentration of all the forces upon that frontier which the exigencies of the services elsewhere would allow.

The United States' squadron in the Gulf of Mexico is being strengthened. When complete it will consist of twelve or thirteen vessels, steam and sail, carrying over 200 guns, with crews thoroughly instructed in their management, and who have also been well drilled in the use of all arms known to the military service, in order that they may be prepared to fight on shore in case of necessity.

In the House of Representatives a resolution had been adopted providing for a committee to investigate charges made against the President of an attempt to bribe certain members of the House.

Advices from the United States' African squadron, dated Dec. 14, report that the steamer *Mytic* would proceed forthwith to St. Helena with a requisition from Commodore Inman upon Sir Drummond Hay, Governor, for the captain, officers, and crew of the barque *Orion*, taken by the British ship *Pluto*, with 888 slaves on board.

INDIA.

TAXATION.

The following is a telegram from Bombay, dated Feb. 25:—"An income tax of two and four per cent, and a state paper currency are announced. The income tax will be two per cent on incomes of twenty to fifty pounds, and above that four per cent. No class will be exempt. The License Bill has been modified, and the scale reduced to one rupee, four rupees, and ten rupees. Hemp, jute, hides, wool, flax, tea, and coffee are to be free of duty. Saltpetre is to be subject to a duty of two rupees per maund of 82 pounds. Twenty per cent duties are to be lowered to ten per cent.

"An invasion of Kokees has taken place in Tipperah. One thousand persons were murdered.

"A report is current of treason in Indoor, the capital of Holkar."

THE VICEROY'S PROGRESS.

The latest news of Lord Canning's tour brings his Lordship to Lahore, whence he was to journey to Peshawur to meet Dost Mohammed, and then back to Sealkote to have an interview with the Maharajah of Cashmere.

KHAN BAHADOOR.

Khan Bahadoor Khan has been tried at Bareilly, and sentenced to be hanged. He took the matter very easily, chewing opium all the while the trial was going on. It is a significant fact that the Mohammedans could not be induced to give evidence against the prisoner, or even to be present in the court at all during the proceedings.

THE CHINA EXPEDITION.

The plan of inviting volunteers for the China expedition has been abandoned. The regiments are asked to volunteer en masse, and the consequent discontent is considerable. In one regiment a hundred Sikhs demanded and received their discharge rather than go. In all, the "volunteers" include some scores of discontented men who go only under the compulsion of regimental opinion. A bill has been brought in investing the commanders of native regiments in China with the powers hitherto exercised by district courts-martial. It was rumoured that Sir W. Mansfield had been ordered to China as second in command, had declined indignantly, had acceded willingly, had acceded sullenly, had, in short, done everything except the one thing he will do—viz., obey orders and do his duty most efficiently. It is certain he has been requested to accept the post. The rest is gossip.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

We have advices from Hong-Kong to Jan. 30. In connection with Hong-Kong the only matter of importance is a trial which was going on before the Magistrate's Court, and which forcibly illustrates the present unsettled state of our relations with the Chinese empire. A sort of clan fight had been going on for a long time in some villages to the west of Macao, between the Hakkas and Puntis Tam Achoy. One of the latter is a noted resident of Hong-Kong, and he took it into his head to charter a steamer flying the British flag, and to engage a number of European sailors, Manila men, and Portuguese, to attack the Hakkas, under the allegation that they were pirates. His party were repulsed, and three of the Europeans with a number of the others were killed. He intended to organise a larger expedition, but fortunately the Hong-Kong Government got intelligence of it, and "Tam Achoy," with the captain of the steamer and the men who had engaged in fighting, were arrested, and brought to trial for violation of the Foreign Enlistment Act.

The intelligence from Japan is of a rather disastrous nature. On the

26th of December a destructive fire took place at Nagasaki, destroying the premises occupied by Messrs. Walsh and Co., Messrs. David Sassoon and Co., and Ta-fong (a large Chinese merchant), whose losses amount to nearly 40,000 dollars, 100,000 dollars, and 25,000 dollars respectively. The fire originated in an empty Japanese dwelling, and is supposed to be the work of an incendiary, the punishment for which is, according to Japanese law, to be burnt alive. The foreigners at Nagasaki were organising themselves into a fire brigade.

A fire also broke out at Yokohama on the 3rd of January, destroying nearly all the foreign houses. It only lasted a few minutes, and the cause was unknown.

The *North China Herald* contains reports of the loss of the *Nymph* on the 17th of December. *Cornelia L. Bevan*, and *Lady Inglis*, in the neighbourhood of Simoda. A passenger and three men of the *Nymph* were drowned. The crew of the *Lady Inglis* had been saved, but the crew of the *Cornelia L. Bevan* had not been heard of.

ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

CENTRAL ITALY.

The official act of the annexation of the *Emilia* provinces to *Sardinia* took place on Sunday at Turin, when Signor Farini handed over to the King, in public audience, the legal document containing the returns of the votes by universal suffrage of the people of *Emilia*. The King, in receiving it, delivered a speech to the effect that he henceforward would feel proud to call the people of the *Emilia* his people. The report that a delay would take place with regard to the annexation of the *Romagna* has, therefore, not been verified. On the contrary, King Victor Emmanuel took particular care distinctly to add that he accepted the offer made by the people of the *Romagna* likewise, without, however, failing in his devotedness to the Chief of the Church, to whose sovereignty he was ready to pay homage, and to whose exchequer he was ready to contribute. The King reserved the assent of his Parliament to the step taken by him, but this did not prevent the decree of annexation being published at once in the *Official Gazette*. The city of Turin was *en fête* on Sunday evening, and so was Florence, where, on that day, the publication of the result of the vote had been celebrated by a solemn religious ceremony, the Archbishop himself intoning the "Te Deum."

Among the rumours that circulate at Paris are these:—That the Emperor Napoleon consents that Piedmont shall annex Tuscany, but that the King shall appoint a Governor; that M. Cavour insists on sending troops to take possession of the *Romagna*; that the Emperor has consented, on condition that the King shall govern in the name of the Holy See; and that to this proposition the Emperor has not yet received an answer.

The *Patrie* contains the following note:—

We learn from Turin, under date of the 16th, that the negotiations relative to Tuscany are actively going on, and that the affair is in a way of arrangement. We are assured that the system proposed is to reconcile the two principles by creating a viceroyalty in Tuscany, with which Prince Carignan will be temporarily invested. The Prince will reside in Florence, where he will have a brilliant Court, and this city will thus continue to be a capital. Tuscany will send deputies to the Turin Parliament, and will moreover have a special assembly for internal affairs. She will keep her Leopoldine laws and certain special privileges required by the habits of her people. This plan, should it be adopted, will enable Tuscany to enjoy all the political advantages of annexation, while at the same time retaining her autonomy. We publish this information as we received it from our correspondent, who assures us that the plan exists and is accepted as authentic in the best-informed circles of Turin.

We have also a despatch announcing the evacuation of Lombardy by the French troops. The different regiments depart by companies and battalions daily, until all shall have returned to France.

THE EXCOMMUNICATION OF THE KING OF SARDINIA.

The impending excommunication of the King of Sardinia by the Pope still raises anxious expectations in every quarter. According to the *Constitutionnel*, "the Pope has addressed a monitory to King Victor Emmanuel, intimating that henceforth all relations between his Holiness and the Royal family must be considered as broken off; that his Majesty will understand that he has openly violated the laws of the Church, and is formally excommunicated. The Holy Father reserves to himself the duty of taking into consideration the interests of the universal Church and the good Catholics of Piedmont before proceeding to severe measures which in any event weigh from henceforth upon the person of the King."

A Turin letter of March 18 in the *Press* says that the Episcopal Court of Turin and all the other episcopal courts of the kingdom have received the text of the excommunication pronounced by Rome on the occasion of the annexation of the *Romagna*; that the document was brought to the Minister of Justice on Friday evening by the Grand Vicar of Mgr. Franzoni (that prelate himself being absent at Lyons); and that on Saturday the Council of State declared the bull void, as not having received the Royal *exequatur*, and prohibited the publication of it. It was affirmed that the majority of the clergy would submit to the prohibition, and not proceed to publish the excommunication.

SAVOY.

The Swiss Envoy at Paris, Dr. Kern, lately handed to M. Thouvenel a protest against any measure of annexation of Savoy to France, said to have been definitively settled between the latter Power and Sardinia. To this protest M. Thouvenel has replied. He expresses his astonishment at the step taken by Switzerland, and says that that country, which has received so many proofs of the friendship of the Emperor, ought to have placed her confidence in France. M. Thouvenel then examines the question of right, and says that the neutralisation of Chablais and Faucigny was made in favour of Savoy. The Federal Council interferes without any legitimate reason in the arrangements which France and Sardinia are about to conclude. M. Thouvenel acknowledges that the Powers are entitled to examine the stipulations of the treaties of 1815, and does not hesitate to say that France is disposed to adopt any medium course suggested either for the general interests or, above all, for the interests of Switzerland.

On Wednesday the Emperor made a speech to a Savoy deputation, in which he said that the annexation is settled on principle; the consent of Piedmont and of the populations has been obtained; and if the people of Savoy had not been opposed to any dismemberment, France would have been willing to assent to the union of the neutralised districts to Switzerland. He is said to have added that the concurrence of the greater part of the Powers to this annexation is probable.

The Municipal Junta of Nice have voted against annexation to France, and the National Guard have elected by a large majority a Colonel attached to the old allegiance. It also appears that a delegate dispatched by the Municipality of Nice is now at Turin, and is engaged in urging the Sardinian Government to prevent the severance of the county of Nice from the kingdom of Victor Emmanuel.

FRANCE AND THE POPE.

A DESPATCH of Cardinal Antonelli (dated February 29) has been published in reply to the last note of M. Thouvenel.

The Cardinal begins by asserting that Piedmont is the sole cause of the insurrection in the *Romagna* and the discontent in the other provinces of the Papal States. He contrasts the past promises of France and Austria, who, in March last, promised to maintain the integrity of the Holy See, with their present inaction and delays. That reforms and concessions would pacify the *Romagna* is an illusion proved by the declarations of the pretended Government of Bologna, which declares that nothing less than the absolute abolition of the Papal authority will satisfy the people. Still the Holy Father has not refused any reforms consistent with his conscience and the welfare of his people. The French Government has requested that these reforms should be put immediately into execution, but the Pope cannot do this until the revolted provinces return under law and order. The "partial abdication" suggested by France is entirely out of the question. A separate administration with an elected council would be,

in fact, an absolute abdication. In short, the Pope cannot consent to any abdication whatsoever for the reason stated in the Encyclical of January 19—namely, that the States of the Church are not the personal property of the Pope, but belong to the Church. The renunciation of the *Romagna* could be quoted as a precedent for a demand for the renunciation of any province of the Papal States. The Pope, finally, cannot see with indifference the spiritual ruin of one million of his subjects, abandoned to the mercy of a party who lay snares for their faith and corrupt their morals; nor behold without concern the scandal which would follow, to the detriment of the dispossessed Italian Princes and of all Christian Princes, and of all civil society, at seeing the felony of a territory crowned with success.

The Cardinal refers to the cession made by Pius VI., at the time of the Treaty of Tolentino. In that case the Pope yielded to force to save the rest of his dominions; but Pius IX. is asked to yield to a dangerous principle, capable of extended application. If the revolt in the *Romagna* has not ceased, the fault is not attributable to the Holy Father, who cannot obtain for the reduction of that revolt the support he might have expected.

After stating that, in consequence of the separation of the *Romagna*, and the disruption which would necessarily follow that step, the rights of all Catholics would be infringed, inasmuch as they have an interest in the actual order established by Providence, an order established to the end that their supreme Teacher might enjoy absolute independence in the exercise of his apostolic functions; and, after pointing out that this was the purport of the Encyclical, the Cardinal continues:—

I will not conclude this despatch without suggesting to you a last consideration with respect to the alleged impossibility of making the *Romagna* return to the legitimate authority of the Holy Father without foreign intervention or renewed occupations, things which are stated to be "impossible," "insurmountable." It is true, and it is impossible to doubt, that the revolt of the four legations has been brought about and is maintained by the agency of a small party which owes its power to the assistance it has received from without, and its hope of receiving still more assistance in the same way; and I cannot see why a rebellion which has been consummated by means of iniquitous external assistance should not be repressed and extinguished by legitimate assistance from abroad. Again, can any one say that succour offered by Catholic nations to their common Father, and in interests which concern the whole of Christendom, should be called assistance from abroad?

For the rest, if, on the one hand, the Holy Father should be disposed to consent to the renewal of negotiations on the basis indicated, on the other he is firmly decided (as he has already stated publicly), with the assistance of God, whose Vicar on earth he is, to sustain the patrimonial rights of the Catholic Church, whatever may be the attacks of its adversaries, and whatever may be the opposition which he unfortunately encounters at the present melancholy juncture.

ABOLITION OF THE NATIVE INDIAN ARMY.

The *Times*, in a leading article, makes the following important announcement:—

"After long suspense and great secrecy of discussion the new principles of our Eastern administration are suddenly announced with a boldness which throws even Mr. Gladstone's enterprise into the shade. If the scheme of the Indian Government is correctly reported, its vigorous Radicalism may well surprise the most audacious of our politicians at home. The reductions proposed are in themselves of the most sweeping character; but in this case retrenchment implies something more than economy. It carries with it a fundamental change of system, and the repudiation of all those traditions of Government which have prevailed in Calcutta since India became British. The policy in contemplation is of such a kind as might have saved the French monarchy in 1789; and less, perhaps, would hardly have sufficed to meet the desperate exigencies of our Eastern empire in 1860."

"Mr. Wilson, on his arrival in India, found not only a considerable deficit in the finances of the country, but such a scale of current expenditure as promised a steady increase of debt and difficulty. It was at this point, indeed, that he encountered the problem which it was his mission to solve. The mere deficiency of the year could be easily met. Hindoos submit without murmuring to extraordinary taxation, provided only it is of a temporary character; it is only when the impost is expected to be permanent that opposition is experienced. Mr. Wilson, however, was in search, not of present relief, but absolute liberation. It was his business to restore an equilibrium between income and expenditure, and circumstances rendered this a task of peculiar difficulty. There was but one way of going to work, and that way led to a revolution of principles and system. The great incubus on the finances of India was the native army. That was the abyss in which the resources of the State were irrevocably absorbed; this was the dragon which the champion of economy was compelled to slay. It was no easy exploit. Many persons, both in India and at home, have always strenuously maintained that India can never be governed without a large native army, and the strength of these traditional opinions is shown by the fact that, after the old Army of Bengal had perished in a rebellion against its own masters, a new army, scarcely less numerous or expensive than the first, sprang into existence, no one knows how."

"At this moment, over and above an aggregate garrison of more than 50,000 European troops, Bengal contains 90,000 native soldiers and 57,000 native military police. Taking the police and soldiery together, the numbers are scarcely less than those of the old Bengal Army, while the strength and cost of the European contingent have been more than doubled. Of course the revenue could not sustain such a burden, but the question was how to reduce it? This question the Government, it is said, will now answer by sweeping away every vestige of a native army, not only in Bengal, but in Madras and Bombay also. This will be equivalent to a summary reduction of 210,000 men, and to a pecuniary saving in direct proportion. It is intended to augment the European establishment; but, if the reports of the scheme are correct, only 40,000 native levies will be retained to relieve the European soldiery of its most trying duties. Of course such a retrenchment will at once restore the finances of India to a sound condition; but it will be asked with considerable emotion, both at home and on the spot, whether so extraordinary a measure can be adopted with safety to the State."

"If 80,000 Europeans are maintained in efficiency for the protection of India, we are convinced that the addition of a 'native army' will only represent a costly and dangerous superfluity; but it is not to be presumed that the old traditions of Indian administration can be thus extinguished without resistance or protest. The interests embraced in the native establishment are numerous and powerful, and the prejudices to be enlisted in its support inveterate and strong. We shall be told that European troops will be exhausted by the mere routine duties of a station under the sun of Hindostan, and that our costly garrisons will melt imperceptibly away when they might have been preserved through the instrumentality of a cheap native levy. To some extent there is truth in this argument, and it is on this account that we are induced to doubt the sufficiency of 40,000 auxiliaries. This, however, is but a question of a few thousands more or less, while the principle of the new scheme is thoroughly sound. We shall be told, probably, that this country cannot endure the drain arising from an Indian army of 80,000 men, but it must be remembered that the improvements in progress will enable us to protect the health of these troops while stationed in India, and ultimately, perhaps, to reduce their numbers. The construction of railways, by facilitating the movement and conveyance of troops, will allow of their being quartered at salubrious stations, and will save many a painful and destructive march. The completion of the telegraphic communication just now announced will further enable us to reinforce our garrisons from home at the shortest notice, and the various administrative reforms actually in progress will put an end, we trust, to many of the contingencies against which our old military establishments were unprovided. It cannot be for nothing that we have lavished land and privileges on native chieftains and restored native Courts to the delights of independence. Above all, we may remember that in disbanding one army we have abolished at least half the duty of the other, and that, when there are no sepoys to be watched, no Europeans will be wanted to watch them. We believe,

therefore, that 80,000 Europeans at present, and fewer hereafter, will amply suffice for the garrison of India; while, as to the native levies, we have the satisfaction of reflecting they can not only be reduced without danger to the tranquillity of the country, but be raised anew without the slightest difficulty in any hour of need."

IRELAND.

MURDER.—Accounts have been received of a barbarous attempt to murder a farmer named Moore, at Bushmills, in the county of Antrim. He was set upon by three men, who robbed him of a sum of money, the produce of a quantity of grain he had sold the same day. Some hours after the outrage he was discovered lying on the high road in a pool of blood and nearly insensible.—A farmer named Kilkelly was beaten to death on Tuesday week at Brannockstown, in the county of Meath. He had had a quarrel with one of his assailants, who procured the assistance of others, and they all fell upon the unfortunate man with bludgeons, and beat him so severely that he lived but a few hours.

THE PAPAL SUBSCRIPTION.—The Pope has supplied Dr. Cullen with a receipt for the "third sum of one thousand pounds" sent to him from Ireland. He says, in a letter to his Legate:—"It is our wish that you should return, in our name, and in the warmest terms, our sincere thanks to your faithful clergy and people for the third sum of a thousand pounds which they have offered to me through you. You may rest assured that our attachment to you, your clergy, and people, is of the warmest kind, and, as a most certain pledge thereof, we grant you, venerable brother, and the flock committed to your care, our Apostolic benediction from our inmost heart, and with our best wishes for your true happiness."

SCOTLAND.

THE CASE OF THE BISHOP OF BRECHIN.—A Synod of the Bishops of the Scottish Episcopal Church was held at Edinburgh, on Thursday week, to give judgment in the case of the Bishop of Brechin. The Episcopal Judges present were the Bishop of Edinburgh, Primus, and the Bishops of Moray, St. Andrews, Aberdeen, and Glasgow. The "presentment," or charge, against the Bishop of Brechin was his having taught, in a primary charge to his clergy in August, 1857—1st, that the sacrifice of the Eucharist is identical with the sacrifice of the Cross; 2nd, that adoration is due to Christ, as in or under the consecrated elements of blood and wine; and 3rd, that there is a reception of Christ by the wicked; and by said teaching he was charged with depraving the articles of religion, the Scotch communion office, and other formularies of the Church. The Bishops gave their opinions at great length. They decided, with reference to the charge contained under the first and second heads of the presentment, that the teaching of the respondent there complained of is unsanctioned by the articles and formularies of the Church, and is to a certain extent inconsistent therewith; and that the third charge of the presentment is not proven. The sentence was limited to "a declaration of censure and admonition," and concluded thus:—"We do now solemnly admonish, and in all brotherly love entreat, the Bishop of Brechin to be more careful for the future, so that no fresh occasion may be given for trouble and offence, such as has arisen from the delivery and publication of the primary charge to his clergy complained of in the presentment."

THE PROVINCES.

A PAUPER KILLED BY A COLD BATH.—The Coroner for Berkshire has held an inquest on the body of William Vioars, a pauper inmate of the Old Windsor Union Workhouse. It was stated in evidence that the deceased had been put into a cold-water bath before and since Christmas by George Solloway, who had care of him, and who had fetched seven or eight pails of cold water from a rain-waterbut, and poured it upon deceased the week before last. His death had, medical witnesses thought, been immediately caused by this proceeding. The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict of "manslaughter" against Solloway, and the Coroner issued his warrant for the committal of the prisoner to Reading goal.

A MAN KILLED WHILE WRESTLING.—A distressing accident occurred on Friday week at Warrington. Two men, named King and Naylor, employed in a wire-drawing factory, were taking a walk, and commenced a good-humoured wrestle with each other. Presently they began to "spar," and in about a minute afterwards both fell, King being underneath. King had fallen on his face, with his head doubled underneath his breast. Naylor almost immediately jumped up, and asked King to rise, but he could not, and he shortly afterwards died. It was found that he had been injured in the spinal marrow. A verdict of "Homicide by misadventure" was returned.

THE SEASON.

LAST year we had the treat of an early spring. Long before this time we were talking of blossoming trees and early flowers, and the notes of birds heard before they were listened for. The case is widely different this year. We should have said that we have not had so late a spring since 1845, but some high authorities declare, further, that nothing like it has been seen for a quarter of a century. Last year our early rejoicings were cut short by an April frost, which destroyed the prospects of the fruit season, and did no less damage in other ways. This year we may reasonably hope that we now know the worst.

We must, indeed, hope that we know the worst, for what we do know is very bad. In some parts of the north the autumn-sowing was altogether prevented by the early onset of winter; and over wide ranges of country the snow has never been cleared away at all. There is no prospect of getting the plough into the ground in time even for oats. In more southerly districts, where advantage has been taken of every thaw to get to work upon the land, the ploughs have been deep buried in snow before they could be brought home. Such corn as was sown in autumn is seriously injured by the recent frosts.

There was a short supply of hay to begin with, from last year's droughts; and there was much fear, in the autumn, that the winter root crops would not hold out. The dread was but too reasonable. Where the turnips and other roots were well pitted they have lasted, with more or less deduction for decay, to the present time; but those which were left exposed went to destruction long ago. The consequences to live stock are most serious. The price of hay has put it out of the reach of all but farmers of considerable capital, and even they have had difficulty in getting it. Their knowledge and command of new and various kinds of farmyard food have done them good service in this remarkable season. If our resources for feeding stock had been no greater than our fathers knew of, our horses and cattle would have died off as fast as ever theirs did. The sheep have been dying by scores all over the hills, after desperate attempts to feed them on dead ferns, and the ewes and lambs at home can with difficulty be kept alive. Sportsmen observe that, hardy as the grouse may be, they cannot live without food, and there is none for them; and disappointment is looked for on the moors half a year hence. Other birds are mischievously hungry, as the owners of cherry-orchards can tell. Wall cherry-trees may have escaped; but many standard trees are ruined for the season, the ground being strewn all round with the husks of the blossoms, the birds having picked out the heart of the blossoms as soon as they were penetrable. The audacity of the birds is excessive, owing to the destruction of insect life this winter. They got up the seeds again as fast as they are sown, and where the shoots of early-sown peas have struggled up they are pinched off by eager beaks as soon as they appear. The kitchen-gardens and cabbage-grounds are a melancholy spectacle. All the labour of last year in setting out a long series of cabbages, from August to November, is thrown away. Every cabbage, like every cauliflower, is nipped in the head; and here is a large portion of the year's cattle-food lost. Our dependence on grass is thus almost exclusive. And what is the condition of the grass? Very backward, to say the least. There are still some weeks between the present colourless ugliness of the fields and hills and the verdure which brings comfort to the farmer as well as luxury to his beasts. How to keep the creatures alive in the interval is as sore a puzzle as the farmer has known for many a year.

There are other creatures, however, than sheep, and cows, and grouse which have been suffering from the season. The months of enforced idleness have ruined many a careful and industrious labourer. Too many of the best order have to begin the world again, and under a burden of debt. Too many of a lower class, as to character, are in gaol for poaching. The temptation is very strong in a game country. If a green thing is visible in a cottage garden, the rabbits and hares come in and eat it. From snaring rabbits it is an easy step to taking game; and the amount of poaching this last winter has been deplorable.

It has been, and for the present must be, a suffering period to high and low in the agricultural interest. If the nobleman mourns to see ancient trees blown down, the cottager finds his wallflowers and carnations as dead as straw. His gooseberry blossoms hardly show yet; and he doubts about setting his potatoes in such weather. His ducks have not begun to lay till six weeks after their usual time, and nearly all his bees are dead.

Is there no set-off on the other side? Yes; as usual, there are some modifying considerations. In the first place, the spring appears to have at length arrived. Then, while for a course of years the country has been under a growing uneasiness about the diminution of the water supply, and the rainfall has been below the average for six or seven years till now, during the non-evaporating months, from October till March, there has been a sufficient rainfall, in some districts above the average; so that we may hope that the springs are once more full. We are not laid open to the evils of drought as we were last year. Again, the condition of the soil must be good wherever it can be worked; for the frost has gone deep, after a plentiful rainfall, and the earth must be in an excellent friable state. Again, there must have been a pretty complete destruction of vermin. Thus our prospects are good when once we shall have surmounted the calamities of this memorable winter. — *Daily News*.

SKETCHES IN TAHITI.

In our last Impression we published some illustrations of Tahiti; and, from want of space, we were compelled to hold over until this week the two Engravings on the present page. The waterfall will show that Tahiti is not deficient in grand scenery, while the residence of Queen Pomare will bear testimony to the extreme simplicity of the tastes of the Ruler of the land. We must refer the reader back to our preceding Number for much interesting matter on the Island.

THE CARNIVAL AT ANTWERP.

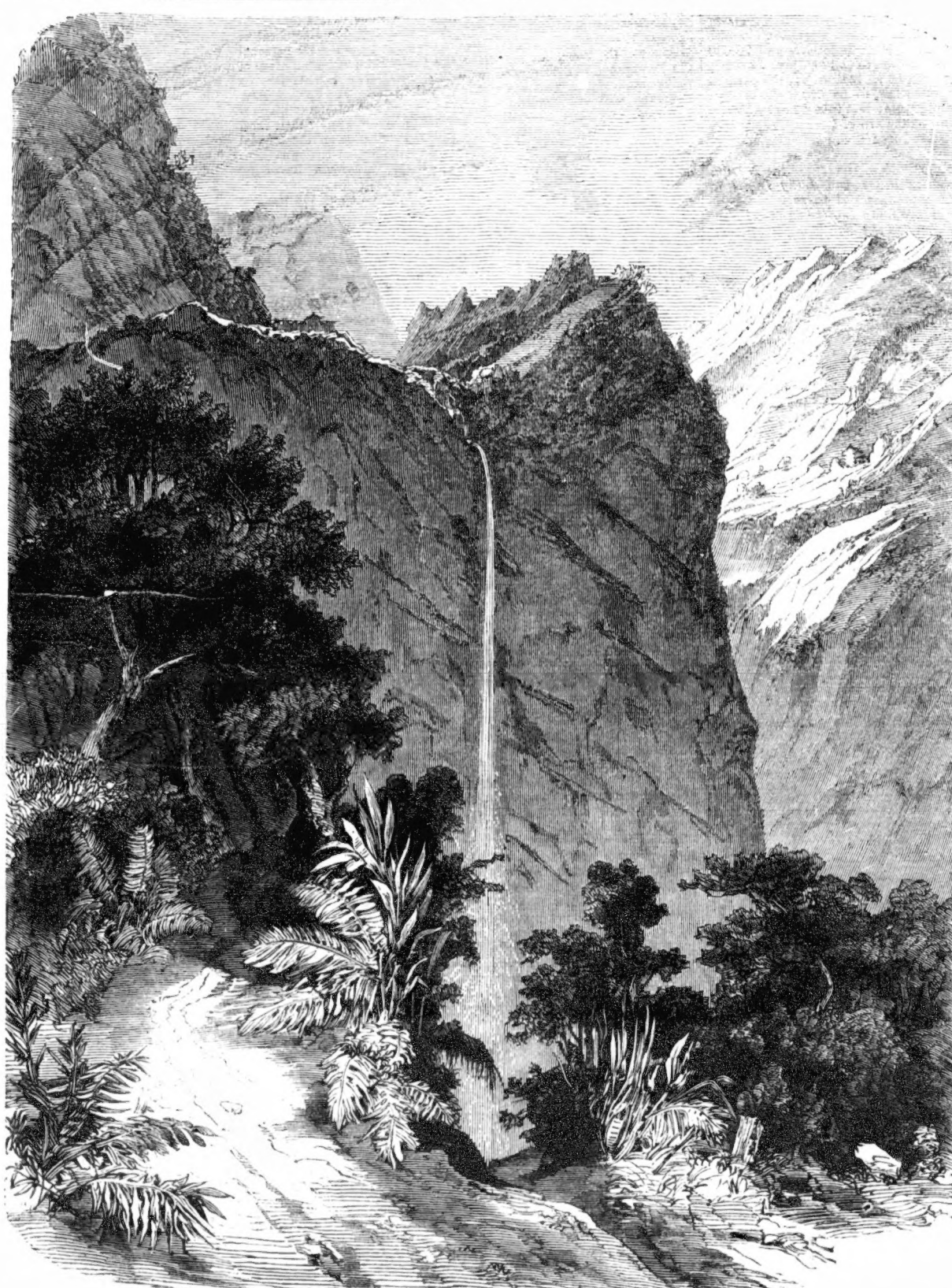
THE modern Belgian fêtes are strongly marked with the characteristics of the pictures of Teniers and of Rubens: idealism gives way to materialism, and, taking the carnival season as an instance of this, we find that these men of the north do not amuse themselves for the sake of the amusement, but each feels compelled to enact a part because it is right that he should do so. Again, their fancy apparently ignores any-

thing approaching to the graceful allegories of the Italians. On occasions such as these it would seem as though the monsters sculptured on the cathedrals of Antwerp and Bruges had left their lofty pinnacles and descended to the streets.

Cast your eyes on the accompanying page of confusion, which seems to embody one of Callot's nightmares. There is the chariot of Fortune dragged by mangy, half-starved, ill-conditioned curs, giving but little heed to their duty when a bone lies in their way, and prompt and ready to snap at the calves of the passers-by. The millionaire, who occupies the seat in front, has the sour expression of countenance and angular feature to be found in Rembrandt's misers. The "darkey" strutting by the allegorical dog-cart must be Soullouque, alias Faustin I., who, with his ebony Queen, is compelled to this natural system of locomotion, having lost his place in the neighbouring chariot. The biped crocodile has eaten up more men than those of the Nile.

Nowadays it is customary to relieve the needy, to help the fatherless, to assist the halt, blind, and the aged, by rejoicing, as it were, over their misfortunes, dancing over the graves of the dead, and laughing and feasting over an entertainment which the miseries of hundreds of suffering fellow-creatures has convened you to. Charity is no longer administered unostentatiously and generously; no, it is necessary to bait the donor with a good dinner, or some other festival appealing to his senses, and when he has emptied many a well-filled plate, and thrown himself back contentedly in a softly-cushioned chair, let an empty plate be sent round, with a reminder that there are others who are starving. It is only fit, then, that charity should have its place in the Carnival, and the lofty chariot, with the old Flemish noble and dame seated therein, represent it.

The satire is a good one. The best time for appealing to the benevolence of the rich is when they are too greatly amused to think about the poor. In the body of the car are men in fancy costumes, who, by means of long fishingrods with bags attached, reach the balconies and first-floor windows of the houses in the line of procession, and into these bags the amused and thoughtless spectators heedlessly drop their coin. Let a poor beggar accost one of these generous Samaritans on the morrow and he will be driven off like an obtrusive cur. Such are the satires the matter-of-fact Belgians indulge in at their Antwerp Carnival.



WATERFALL AT TAHITI.



RESIDENCE OF QUEEN POMARE.



THE CARNIVAL AT ANTWERP.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 122.

COLONEL SYKES ON HIS LEGS.

LAST week the strangers in the gallery saw a curious scene, one which used to be common, but has now become rare. Colonel Sykes was upon his legs. The subject on which he was addressing the House was the reorganisation of the Indian Army. It is a dull and uninteresting topic, and Colonel Sykes is not an attractive speaker. Hence, as soon as the gallant Colonel arose, the House began to dwindle away—in a few minutes there were only about thirty members left, and of these very few seemed to be listening to the gallant Colonel. Some of them were unmistakably asleep, while others appeared to be indulging in reveries which had led them far away from the House, India, and Colonel Sykes. On the Treasury bench there were two Ministers. On the opposite seat, where the prominent members of "her Majesty's Opposition" sit, there was not a soul. Such was the state of the House at a quarter past ten o'clock on Tuesday night. Early in the evening it had been determined upon to try a count at the close of the Savoy debate, but the debate lingered on until past nine, and it was considered that a count then was all but hopeless. It is during the dinner hours, from seven to nine, that counts are mostly effected. After nine they are rarely attempted, and, if attempted, seldom succeed. But here was a tempting opportunity! "Only thirty members in the House! Surely it is worth trying. Just go in and get one or two more to come out, whilst I watch at the door. We'll try it on, and at worst we can but lose."

HE IS COUNTED OUT.

And so, whilst the gallant Colonel was addressing these few drowsy members, suddenly some one gets up and in under tones calls the Speaker's attention to the fact that there are not forty members in the House. Whereupon Mr. Speaker rises and orders "strangers to withdraw;" the gallant Colonel leaves a sentence unfinished, and drops into his seat; the clerk at the table turns the sandglass, and Mr. Speaker resumes his seat whilst the sand is running through. Meanwhile there is at the door hurrying and scuffling and no little fun; for the bells have been set ringing, as they always are on such occasions, and members have hurried up from different parts of the building, fancying that this clatter of bells announced a division. And now the question at the door is how to keep them from entering the House. Some, when they heard that it was only a count, stopped short; others hesitated, wanted to know who was in possession of the House, and what other business was coming on; whilst some few resolutely pushed through the crowd and insisted upon entering. Quickly, however, the two minutes sped, and before the doubts of the doubtful could be resolved Mr. Speaker is again on his legs, and with his opera-bat is pointing to the members present. Resolve your doubts, ye doubtful, or it will be too late. Ah! it is too late; for, see! Mr. Speaker leaves the chair, and all is over; and Colonel Sykes must fold up his papers and postpone the delivery of that elaborated harangue of his, which had cost him a world of study, to a more favourable opportunity. Well, perhaps there is not much lost. The reorganisation of the Indian Army is no doubt an important matter, but it is questionable whether it would be forwarded much by a speech from Colonel Sykes to thirty members of Parliament, one-half of whom were fast asleep. It must be done, this reorganisation; but it must bide its time until the right man arises to do it. Without him all the Parliamentary eloquence that we have at command will not forward the great work; with him no Parliamentary eloquence will be needed—will, indeed, be rather a hindrance than not.

WHO IS COLONEL SYKES?

Colonel Sykes is "an old Indian," as any one who will look at him may see; for if any man bears the stamp of an Indian life upon his face it is Colonel Sykes. Indeed, so Oriental is his appearance that some have fancied that he must be Indian by birth. He is as dark as a mulatto; and, notwithstanding he is now seventy years old, his fierce moustache is nearly black, and the dark hair of his head is but slightly sprinkled with grey. The Colonel, however, is true English; and no doubt when he was a lad had a true English face; but when he was only fourteen years of age he joined the Indian army in Bombay, and remained in India nearly thirty years; and during this long period he saw service, rose from a cadetship to a colonelcy, and at one time commanded a field force. No wonder, therefore, that he is Asiatic in his appearance. Thirty years' exposure to an Indian sun would be sure to stamp him with its ineffaceable mark. An Indian life of thirty not unfrequently makes men languid and inactive for the rest of their days, but it has had no such effect upon the gallant Colonel; for few men have been more actively engaged than he has since his return to his native land. He has been a director, vice-chairman, and chairman of the East India Company; has taken an energetic part in numerous societies; and has written upwards of threescore papers on the ancient history, antiquities, statistics, geology, natural history, meteorology, &c., of India; and even now, though he has arrived at the age of threescore and ten, he shows no signs of the usual weakness, languor, and inactivity of old age. Indeed, to look at him as he walks across the lobby, and to see and hear him in the House, you would not imagine that he is more than fifty years old. The gallant Colonel is somewhat Asiatic in his dress as well as in his personal appearance. He does not wear a turban of course, nor long robes; but that olive-coloured coat with bright buttons, the gold-embroidered velvet waistcoat, and the resplendent and costly shirt-studs are clearly to be attributed to a taste which originated where finery in dress is more the vogue than it is in England. Colonel Sykes is an able man no doubt, and possesses a vast range of knowledge on all Indian matters; but he is not an attractive speaker. This is, however, not surprising, seeing that he did not come into Parliament until 1857. There is, however, something better in the gallant Colonel than oratorical ability; for all who know him give him the character of being a kind and humane man.

REFORM BILL 1831-1832.

It is twenty-nine years since Lord John Russell presented to the House of Commons his first Reform Bill. Readers, few of you remember that remarkable epoch: we recollect it well. Let us, then, just recall those scenes for a moment, and contrast them with what we now see around us. The first Reform Bill was brought into the House by Lord John Russell, on the 1st of March, 1831; the second reading of this bill was carried on the 22nd of March, in a House of 603 members, by a majority of one; but, on the motion for going into Committee, it was met by a hostile amendment, "that the members for England and Wales ought not to be diminished." This amendment was proposed by General Gascoyne in a House of 590 members, and carried by a majority of eight, whereupon the bill was withdrawn, and Parliament promptly dissolved. This was the fate of the first bill thus far. The new Parliament met on the 14th of June, and on the 24th the bill was again introduced, and passed the first reading without a division, and the second, on the 4th of July, by a majority of 116; such was the change in the House which an appeal to the country had made. The third reading was carried, by a majority of 113, on the 21st of September, and then it went up to the Lords, where a different fate awaited it. The first division in the Lords took place on the 8th of October, on the second reading, when Lord Wharncly proposed an amendment, "that the bill be read this day six months," and carried it by a majority of forty-one; and this was the end of the first Reform Bill. Parliament was then prorogued; but it speedily met again; for, on the 12th of December, another bill was introduced—Bill the Second; "the Bill" which ultimately passed into law. We need not go over the progress of this bill through the Commons in detail; suffice it to say that it passed through every stage by large majorities, and was launched in the Lords by Earl Grey, on the 26th of March, 1832. On the 14th of April the first division was taken on the second reading, when there was a majority for the bill of nine; but in Committee, May 7, Lord Lyndhurst met it by an amendment that "the question of enfranchisement should precede that of disfranchisement," which he carried by a majority of seven. And then came a struggle which the country had never seen the like of for two hundred and fifty years, and which, it is to be hoped, we shall never see again. On the 9th of May Ministers resigned, and then the row began. To give anything like a notion of the excitement

which prevailed is impossible; but here are two circumstances which will give our readers a little peep into those times. The Birmingham political unions, a formidable body—some said a hundred thousand strong—threatened to march up to London. "The Duke" was prepared to meet this advance by force, but found, from the reports of his officers, that the soldiers sympathised with the people. "They would put down all riots, but they would not interfere to prevent the people from obtaining their just rights;" so ran the reports. After this the excitement soon came to an end, for on May 18 the Ministers returned to office with power to create Peers to enable them to carry their bill, and the Duke, knowing what he did of the disposition of the soldiery, counselled the Tory Lords to withdraw all opposition. This advice was acted upon, and, without resorting to the dangerous expedient of creating new Peers, the Ministers carried their bill through Committee without further division on May the 30th; the third reading on June the 4th, by a majority of eighty-four; and on June the 7th it received the Royal assent and became the law of the land. Most of the actors in this memorable scene are gone. The eloquence of Earl Grey has long been silent; the Iron Duke is no longer "iron," but mere dust under the dome of St. Paul's; Melbourne, Holland, Peel, Winchelsea, and a host of others have passed into the eternal silence. The wit of Sydney Smith no longer flashes and sparkles; the right hand of Wilson Croker, so famous for manipulating statistics, has quite forgotten its cunning; and Billy Holmes and his "whip" are both mouldering in the dust. A few, however, of the combatants remain. Here, for example, is Lord John again at the table with another Reform Bill; Brougham, the Reform Chancellor, is still living; and Lyndhurst and Lansdowne are still left to us. But how changed they all are to what they were! Lord John was a young man then, but now he is nearly seventy. He is less changed, perhaps, than any of his surviving colleagues, but he is not the Lord John that once we knew. Brougham's eloquence, with which he used to fulminate o'er the land, has lost its fire; Lansdowne is a poor, tottering, old, old man; and Lyndhurst, though vigorous still in mind, is so weak in body that he cannot stand or walk without support. Such are the changes which changing Time produceth.

THE REFORM BILL OF 1859.

Such was the Reform struggle of 1831-2. The introduction of the bill of 1859 is a very different affair. We cannot use the word struggle, for there is nothing of the sort. In 1831-2 men's enthusiasm and passions were at a white heat, but now we have no enthusiasm, no passion. Then the lobbies were crammed night after night, and all the way from Palace-yard to Charing-cross there was so dense a mob that members found great difficulty in getting to the House in safety; but on Monday night there were but few people in the lobby, whilst the galleries were barely filled, and yet it is remarkable that the old Reform Bill did nothing to enfranchise the working men, although they were so hot for it, whilst this bill does really propose to give to them a large measure of representation. How is it that they take apparently so little interest in it? Well, perhaps, one reason is, the working men are all well employed now—hard at work earning money; a second may be, perhaps, that they have grown wise by experience, and do not now believe that Parliamentary Reform can do much for their good; and a third—they know the bill will pass. And so we leave the question.

MR. LEATHAM.

One of the principal features of the debate was the maiden speech of Mr. Leatham. Some time ago Mr. Leatham made a speech at Huddersfield which led Mr. Cobden to predict that, "with practice, Mr. Leatham would make a first-rate speaker and debater." We read that speech, but could not indorse Mr. Cobden's prophecy; nor can we now. It takes a great deal to make a first-rate speaker and debater in the House of Commons; more, we fancy, than there is in Mr. Leatham, or ever will be. That Mr. Leatham spoke very well is not to be denied; indeed, as a maiden speech, the effort was very creditable, and that he will improve by practice cannot be doubted. But a "first-rate speaker and debater" are large words—very large words. We have not more than twenty, at the most, first-rate speakers and debaters in the House. If we were to say ten perhaps we should be nearer the mark. Indeed, when we come to think of the words "first-rate speaker and debater" (mark the copulative conjunction *and*, readers, if you please), we doubt whether we have not been too liberal; for really it is a rare thing to find a good speaker and a good debater in one person. Disraeli is a good speaker, of course, but he certainly is not a first-rate debater; whilst every one would say that Mr. Henley is a good, if not a first-rate, debater, though an indifferent speaker. However, Mr. Leatham's first attempt was very creditable. His language was tolerably correct, his action was easy and appropriate, and his whole demeanour was modest and unassuming; and in some parts of his speech there were indications of a readiness at reply which may make him a useful, if not a first-rate, debater, and other qualifications which may enable him to become a tolerably effective, if not a first-rate, speaker. But we must pass on to notice

THE HON. MR. CAMPBELL.

And into what a region we have got now! It is probable that the House has seen nothing like Mr. Campbell's exhibitions since the honourable member was last in Parliament. We had thought "what with Mr. Whiteside's movements, Mr. Du Cane's, and Sir Bulwer Lytton's—we had seen every gesticulation that it is possible for the human frame to make; but we were utterly mistaken, for Mr. Campbell gave us on Monday night something entirely new. Oh, that arm! Shall we ever get it out of our mind? It has haunted us ever since like a nightmare dream. Fancy a stiff pump-handle moving up and down, and occasionally and suddenly stopped, as if paralysed, and rigidly held in position for some seconds, and you will get a fair idea of the extraordinary action of that arm. But it will only be a faint idea; nor is it possible, by any description, to give you a notion of all the other movements of the honourable member. They were too varied, too spasmodic, too extravagant for the pen to describe. Nor is the honourable member's voice less remarkable than his manner. It is of the stentor type, and at times comes with such a blast upon the drum of the ear that the object of the speaker is defeated; for, instead of conveying articulate sounds to the listener, it stuns him. And yet this is really a pity, for Mr. Campbell is a man of no mean capacity and talent; and, if any one will take the trouble to read the honourable member's speech in the *Times*, he will find that Mr. Campbell has something to say, though he cannot say it well.

SALARIES TO EAST INDIA OFFICIALS.—A return has been made showing the annual salaries and emoluments of all Indian employes. The salary of the Governor-General is £25,000 a year, in addition to which there is an outfit allowance of £5000, and other allowances, which in 1858 amounted to £12,863. The four ordinary members of the Supreme Council receive £8000, and an outfit allowance of £1200, and they are appointed at home. The four ordinary members of the Legislative Council receive £5000, and the clerk to the Council £3000. The secretariat is composed of five secretaries to the Government, three of whom have £5000, one £3600, and one £3000; four under-secretaries, two at £2100, and two at £900; and four assistant under-secretaries, one at £720, and three at £600. The list of officials is so long that we can only notice a few of the more important items it contains. The Chief Commissioner of Oude receives £6000 a year, and there are thirty-seven assistant and deputy-assistant commissioners with salaries ranging from £4200 to £180. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has £10,000, and allowances which amounted in 1858 to £1738; and the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Province of the Punjab receives the same salary, with allowances varying slightly in amount. The Governor of Madras receives £12,800 a year, with £2500 for his outfit; and the members of council at Bombay receive the same sums. Among the low salaries of subordinate officials we notice a few of £120, but these are rare; £240 is the lowest in most departments of the Government.

ANOTHER DIFFICULTY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.—Advice from British Columbia to the S.H. ult. state that an American officer had marched with a sergeant's guard to Langley, and taken two men prisoners and conveyed them over the boundary line to Washington territory. The Victoria newspapers were highly incensed at this new infringement of the rights of the British Government.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

SAVOY.

LORD CARNARVON inquired whether the Government were in possession of any information as to a telegram which declared that Sardinia has agreed to carry out the annexation of Savoy to France by special treaty, that the great Powers should not be consulted till after the transaction, and that Switzerland was not to be consulted at all on the subject? If these assertions were authentic they were diametrically opposed to two despatches from Count Cavour and Lord Cowley of the respective dates of the 3rd and 9th of March. He also asked whether the promised despatch of M. Thouvenel, which was to throw a new light on the annexation of Savoy, was yet in the hands of the Government?

The Duke of Newcastle strongly objected to the practice of putting questions to the Government on no other authority than newspaper telegrams. There was no doubt that great and flagrant discrepancies existed between the despatches and the telegrams; but the Government could know nothing more than any other member of the House. In regard to the second question, the despatch of M. Thouvenel had been received within the last twenty-four hours, and her Majesty's Government had not yet decided whether it could be laid on the table of the House.

LORD MALMESBURY acknowledged the right of the Government to refuse to answer questions, but could not allow that noble Lords should forego the privilege of putting them.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MR. NEWDEGATE AND MR. COBDEN.

Before the commencement of public business, upon the call of Mr. Bright, Mr. NEWDEGATE entered into a long exposition of certain opinions he had expressed of the political views and sentiments of Mr. Cobden. These sentiments, Mr. Newdegate said, had always appeared more in favour of foreign despotisms than of our own free institutions.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On the motion for adjournment till Monday a long array of subjects, fourteen in number, stood on the notice-paper for discussion, comprising the burial of a dead body found in Kent without an inquest; the Nabobs of the Carnatic; the extension of the Royal Military College at Sandhurst; the India House Museum; the treatment of the destitute Irish in England; the extension of our trade with Central Asia; the reduction in the establishments of the Custom House and Inland Revenue; the amalgamation of the Indian and Royal Armies; the French fortifications on the Island of St. Pierre; religious persecution of British subjects resident in Spain; the sale of gas; wine licenses; and the answer of Lord J. Russell to the despatch of Lord Bloomfield, our Ambassador at Berlin, dated the 3rd of March, respecting the overture of Prussia on the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France. Each of these subjects was broached, and most of them were, to a limited extent, debated. With reference to the subject last named,

THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.

MR. KINGLAKE urged the production of the document in question as a most important one; and

SIR R. PEEL quoted a declaration of Baron Schleinitz, the Prussian Minister, that the absorption of Savoy was viewed in Germany with the greatest distrust; and he reiterated with emphasis his denunciation of the measure, as well as of the policy of France, which, he said, was daily outraging public opinion.

LORD J. RUSSELL said he had returned no answer to the despatch of Lord Bloomfield, but Prussia agreed in the view taken by her Majesty's Government on the subject of the annexation. He admitted that the language of Count Cavour was ambiguous. He added that he had recently received a despatch stating in temperate terms the views of the French Government respecting the annexation, a communication, he said, which required the most serious attention.

The motion for adjournment was agreed to.

THE CHINA QUESTION.

On the order for going into a Committee of Supply, SIR DE LACY EVANS, who had given notice of a series of resolutions on the subject of the expedition against China, drew attention to the vast armament which was to form that expedition, and which must cost, he said, an enormous sum of money, with little chance of its being repaid by the Imperial Government at Peking. He thought it would not be desirable that the troops should march upon that capital, and he hoped that Lord J. Russell would be able to inform the House that strict instructions would be given for the conduct of the expedition. He moved a resolution founded upon the wish expressed in her Majesty's speech on the opening of the present Session:—"It will be gratifying to me if the prompt acquiescence of the Emperor of China in the moderate demands which will be made by the Plenipotentiaries shall obviate the necessity for the employment of force."

LORD J. RUSSELL said there would be no need of marching upon Peking unless all fair and reasonable terms should be refused; but it would be wrong to give particular instructions not to march thither. No one could regret more than he did the necessity of this expedition, but the persons and property of our traders must be secured, and he thought that our Minister in China should have the power not only of going to but of residing at the capital. It might be more convenient that he should permanently reside at Shanghai, but he should be at liberty to proceed, if necessary, to Peking. He considered that we were entitled to an indemnity.

SIR J. ELPHINSTONE was of opinion that it would be a fatal mistake to march upon Peking, and a far better policy to occupy the city of Nankin, with a force of gun-boats on the river.

MR. BRIGHT traced the progress of the transactions in China from the war commenced by the indiscretion of Sir J. Bowring; and after blaming the stipulations of the last treaty he contended that, in the proceedings for ratification of that treaty, we were as much in the wrong as we were at Canton, under the management of Sir J. Bowring. He denied that the Chinese were open to the charge of treachery; he insisted that the collision at the mouth of the Peiho was attributable to the imbecility of our own Minister and the indiscretion of the Admiral; and he censured the Government for allowing a person so utterly unfit to conduct the negotiations as Mr. Bruce to continue to be our Minister in China. He could see no advantage to this country in requiring that our Minister should reside at Peking, which would inflict a grievous insult upon the Emperor of China. He warned the Government against a partnership with another Power, and against making demands upon the Government of China which, being based only upon a disaster occasioned by the folly of our own Minister, we ought not, in the sight of God or man, to make.

MR. S. HERBERT observed that it might be true that the Treaty of Tientsin imposed upon the Chinese conditions that were unacceptable to them; but, as the treaty had been adopted by both the late and the present Governments, it was a *fait accompli*, and its ratification must be insisted upon. Nothing was sought at the Peiho but the ratification of the treaty, and, after what occurred there, one course only remained. It would be most unwise to approach the Chinese authorities without a sufficient force to show that we were able to insist upon the conclusion of the treaty.

SIR J. FAKINGTON said that, after the unhappy affair of the Peiho, it was the duty of the Government to see that our power and prestige should not be impaired, and he thought them right in making a demonstration of force; but, looking to the whole conduct of Mr. Bruce, he thought we were not entitled to demand an apology from the Government of China. At the bar of the Peiho Mr. Bruce had committed an error in judgment; that he was wrong in his interpretation of the law of nations, and in ordering an attack. And, if the apology was demanded and refused, was the Government going to engage in a protracted war with China?

MR. HOPE and MR. C. BRUCE defended the conduct of Admiral Hope and Mr. Bruce in the attack of the mouth of the Peiho.

LORD PALMERSTON said that all the circumstances justified Mr. Bruce and Admiral Hope in the conduct they pursued. There would, in his opinion, have been just ground for blaming Mr. Bruce if he had acted differently; and, as to the Admiral, no officer could have displayed a greater spirit of heroism. The policy of the Government towards China was as simple as it was just. The treaty concluded with China had been approved by the Emperor, and the Government wanted its stipulations to be fulfilled. As to an apology, he thought there was no reason to suppose the Emperor of China would be indisposed to make one.

MR. WHITESIDE condemned the conduct of Mr. Bruce in the attack upon the Chinese, and complained that the tone of Lord Palmerston's speech implied that the Admiral who was to go out with the force to China was to repeat the same offence.

MR. COCHRANE justified statements he had made in a former debate upon the event in the Peiho, and reproved Lord Palmerston for indulging in what he thought a jocular strain when speaking of its incidents.

SIR H. VERNY defended Mr. Bruce. The amendment, though understood to have been moved, was not put from the Chair, and the House went into Committee of Supply, when, on the motion of Mr. S. Herbert, a vote of credit of £850,000, on account of China, was agreed to.

Certain bills were forwarded through their respective stages, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, MARCH 19.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE BALLOT.

LORD TRENHAM, in a long speech, moved "that it is expedient, in the election of members to serve in Parliament, that the votes of the electors be taken by ballot." His Lordship said he neither wished for the vote by ballot of America nor of Victoria, which was not secret, but of the other colonies, whose particular system he did not specify.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said he was of opinion that the ballot would never work without greater attendant evils than those sought to be rectified, and those who desired to introduce the ballot into this country argued upon a false analogy between this country and her colonies, where the state of society and the organisation of labour was on a totally different footing. The abolition of bribery and intimidation was not to be effected by legislation, but by that which had already effected so much—the improved moral tone of the people of this country. The vote of every man was a trust given him for the public good, and it was not right that he should be relieved of responsibility in its exercise, as he would be by the protection of the ballot, especially when it was considered that publicity was one of the principal elements of morality and freedom.

Their Lordships then divided upon the motion, when the numbers were—in favour of it, 4; against it, 39.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.
SAVOY.

MR. KINGLAKE, in addressing certain questions to her Majesty's Government relative to an appeal made by the Swiss Government to the Powers of Europe, and also to the despatch which Lord J. Russell had stated on Friday he had received from Count Thouvenot, said that he had received within the last hour and a half a telegram informing him that the Municipal Council of Nice desired to remain united to the kingdom of Sardinia; or, if France insisted that the annexation of Nice to Sardinia was incompatible with her safety, Nice wished to be independent.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL, in reply, said her Majesty's Government had not received the Swiss note; and, with reference to the other inquiries, he asked the forbearance of the House, observing that questions of this nature tended seriously to embarrass the Government.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.

On the order for the second reading of the Representation of the People Bill.

MR. DISRAELI said the end proposed by the bill was "to amend the laws relating to the representation of the people in England and Wales," and its principles were the extension of the franchise in counties and boroughs, and a new distribution of Parliamentary seats; but he did not see in this bill any allusion to the necessary topics of registration and facilities for voting. Its omissions were, indeed, its principal features; some of the provisions intimately connected with the franchise were entirely ignored. With reference to the extension of the franchise in boroughs, the late Government, in their bill, did not look to numbers, but to the fitness of those who were to receive the suffrage. This was not, however, the principle upon which the present Government had proceeded. The existing borough constituency of England was 440,000, to which number this bill would add 217,000, and this addition would consist almost entirely of one homogeneous class. It was important to consider how this new constituency must act upon the old. In some boroughs the constituency would be trebled, in others doubled, and about one half of the boroughs would be under the influence of the new class about to be enfranchised. The working classes had shown a remarkable talent for organisation, and to these classes the bill was about to give predominant power. The next principle was the reduction of the county franchise. In reducing the qualification for this franchise one consideration should be observed—the constituency should be fairly connected with the chief property and the chief industry of the country. This great consideration was not observed if freeholders in a town, where votes might be split, were to be allowed to vote for a district with which they had no local sympathy or connection. Then the 4th clause, which would disfranchise a great number of voters for counties, would greatly reduce the influence of the landed interest, and he objected to the bill because the reconstruction of the county franchise tended to diminish that salutary influence. The third principle of the bill—the redistribution of Parliamentary seats—he objected to on the ground that it went too far, or not far enough, and that it was radically unsound. Then the question was, what ought to be done? It was a very bad bill; he knew only two members who approved it—its author and the member for Birmingham. His opinion was that by the bill of 1859 the franchise would have been more extended than by this bill; but he was not prepared to say that he would reject the bill upon the second reading. He hoped, however, that ultimately the mischievous measure would be withdrawn.

MR. LEATHAM replied to some of the objections offered by Mr. Disraeli; at the same time he pointed out what he regarded as shortcomings and defects in the bill. He regretted that it made no mention of the ballot, and that it dealt too tenderly with the diminutive constituencies.

MR. BAILEY said, if the property qualification in boroughs were abandoned, he should prefer household suffrage; and, with respect to counties, he objected to reducing the franchise so low as £10. He objected, likewise, to the retention of small borough franchises.

MR. BAXTER also objected to the fourth clause, which required the building occupied jointly with land to be of the value of £5 to give a county franchise; and the redistribution of seats was not, in his opinion, satisfactory.

MR. HOLT said the measure made a large step towards severing the representation of the people from the property of the country. This he took to be its true principle. The bill of 1832 did this professedly, and it was now proposed to do this a second time in little more than a quarter of a century. He warned the House that they could not stop at this point; they must proceed to household suffrage, and then to universal suffrage. An example of this step-by-step legislation and its results would be seen, among a people with notions akin to ours, in the State of New York, the conventions in which furnished traces of an agrarian law. The effect of the American system upon the Executive was that opinion was coloured and action dictated by the masses, while the Legislature was represented by their own writers to be demoralised. These were the results of reforming their Constitution by men of our own race, and he thought we should take some lessons from them.

MR. CAMPBELL said the question was whether the bill would lessen the most acknowledged defects of the Reform Act. He pointed out some of those defects, which the bill, he said, did not remedy, but aggravated. The evil of the exclusion from the House of distinguished men was extended by the bill, which removed twenty-five seats open to men of Parliamentary ability, while it retained seats not so accessible.

MR. LIDDELL proposed to consider how far the bill corresponded to a rule laid down by Lord J. Russell, that the franchise should be conferred upon those most competent to exercise it faithfully; and he contended that the bill would enfranchise a large number of dependent persons, and that, in some boroughs, it would throw the representation virtually into the hands of paupers, or the least wealthy, independent, or educated classes. In the counties the reduction of the qualification would work a material change in the whole character of the constituency, and obliterate the distinction between the county and the town elements.

MR. BRIGHT said it was evident the bill met with two kinds of objectors—one who thought it went too far; another who wished it to go further. He did not oppose or advocate it upon either ground. He regarded the measure as the fulfilment of a pledge given by the Government. It did not settle the question of disfranchisement or the transfer of seats; it rather unsettled it. If it passed it would not add more than 160,000 to the borough constituency. And how many of these would be working men? Not more than 100,000; and how could it then be said that they would swamp the other classes? If 300,000 or 400,000 were admitted to the franchise he could not refuse the measure, because, in his opinion, these numbers ought to be doubled. He thought the bill failed in certain points. He objected to the ratepayers clauses, to the 4th clause, and to other details. With regard to the ballot, that question would be brought under consideration upon a future occasion, and he was convinced that, under this bill, there would be a still greater necessity for that measure. Upon the whole, he urged that it was the duty as well as the interest of the House to accept the bill.

After some remarks by Mr. KNIGHTLEY in opposition to the bill, the debate, on the motion of Mr. STANFELD, was adjourned.

SUPPLY.—THE CHINA EXPEDITION.

On the report of the Committee of Supply, General PERL entered into a variety of details connected with the Army Estimates to show that the vote of credit of £350,000 for China would be insufficient; that it would not pay more than half the expenditure; and that, at the end of the year, there would be an enormous deficiency.

MR. S. HERBERT gave, in reply, a counter-statement, observing that he felt perfectly safe for the financial year. As to the China vote, he had taken the best advice, and looked carefully through the accounts, and believed it to be sufficient for the year.

Inquiries upon the subject of the China expedition were made by Sir H. Willoughby, Sir J. Elphinstone, and Colonel P. Herbert, and replies and explanations were given by Sir C. Wood.

SIR M. SKYMOUR read a communication made to him from America relative to the reception of Mr. Ward, the American Minister at Peking. The report was agreed to, and, after some further business, the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords sat only for a short time, and no business of public importance was transacted.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BALLOT.

In the House of Commons, MR. H. BERKELEY moved for leave to introduce a bill to cause the votes of the electors of Great Britain and Ireland to be taken by ballot. He was astonished, he said, at the talent arrayed against him upon this question, but he had looked through "Hansard," and could not find in the speeches of eminent members of that House in opposition to the ballot a single valid argument. He cited and discussed their arguments *seriatim*, endeavouring to show that they were fallacious, or inconsistent with facts. On the other hand, he appealed to the testimony of Lord Macaulay as to the necessity and the efficacy of the ballot. An admirable precedent for the adoption of the ballot in this country was furnished, he contended, by the Australian colonies.

The motion was seconded by Lord HENLEY, who insisted that intimidation must continue without the ballot.

MR. MARSH gave a description of the effects of the ballot in Australia (speaking of New South Wales) which differed from Mr. Berkeley's. He did not attribute the prosperity of the colony to the ballot, which, in his opinion, had produced great evils.

MR. C. FORSTER said he had given but one vote, several years ago, upon this question, and that was in favour of the ballot. That vote was given without sufficient examination; since that time he had thought a good deal upon the subject, and the more he thought the less he liked the ballot. In most cases, he believed, it would afford no protection even against intimidation, and in the others the protection would be purchased at too great a cost, the sacrifice of character and honesty.

MR. LAWSON, in supporting the motion, argued that, from the want of a better organised machinery in the Reform Act of 1832, bribery and intimidation had not decreased, and that the only remedy which could be effectual was a preventive one—the ballot.

LORD PALMERSTON assured Mr. Berkeley that nothing in his speech had altered the opinion he had entertained. He still thought that the franchise was a trust, and not a right. If it was a right, a man could do what he liked with his vote, so that Mr. Berkeley's doctrine would go to legalise bribery. As long as it was held to be a trust, a man was guilty of a moral and a political offence if he bartered it away. Every political function in this country was exercised in the eyes of the public; and if the ballot became law he repeated that, in his opinion, it would degrade and demoralise the people of this country, and turn the electors in law-breakers or hypocrites.

After a brief reply by Mr. BERKELEY the House divided, when the motion was negatived by 254 to 147.

JEWISH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

MR. T. DUNCOMB moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the Act of the 21st and 22nd of Victoria, chapter 49, "to provide for the relief of her Majesty's subjects professing the Jewish religion," the object of the bill being to remove words in the Act which created a distinction between the mode in which Jews and Christians took the oaths as members of that House.

LORD R. CECIL, Sir G. GREY, Mr. NEWDEGATE, and Mr. ROEBUCK made a few remarks, and the House having resolved itself into a Committee upon the Act, leave was given to introduce the bill.

COUNT OUT.

General UPTON moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the truth of the allegations contained in a petition of the Ayr and Maybole Junction Railway Company, relative to the application of the grant for Portpatrick and Donaghadee Harbours. He was arguing in support of his motion when the House was counted out.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS.

MR. DILLWYN, in moving the second reading of his Endowed Schools Bill (there being three bills with this title upon the orders of the day), observed that the subject had been discussed last Session, and the law, as he then stated it, had not been disputed—namely, that in all endowed schools, where by the deed of trust the management was not expressly or constructively limited, Dissenters were excluded; and he had introduced a bill to remove this disqualification, it being a manifest grievance to Dissenters to be debarred from the right appertaining to citizens to take part in the management of schools calculated for national purposes. That bill had been read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee, which had adopted the principle of usage. This he thought a dangerous principle, and he had abandoned that bill. After a short analysis of each of the other bills, explaining his objections to both—one of them, he said, not touching the question, and the other being ineffectual for its purpose—he gave an exposition of his own bill, and the provisions he had introduced to obviate objections offered to that of last Session. In order to show the danger of allowing the education of the young of this country to be monopolised by the Church of England, he adverted to what he characterised as the schism by which that Church was afflicted.

MR. LOWE explained the reasons why he recommended the House not to read the bill a second time. In dealing with questions of this kind, courts of equity took as a guide the will of the founder, and wherever the intention was expressed they gave effect to it, and in cases where it was not expressed the courts assumed that the founder did not mean to exclude religious teaching, and they collected from collateral circumstances, not what the school ought to be in this respect, but what he meant that religious teaching to be. Of the exact grievances of the Dissenters in this matter, the most serious arose from the later decisions of the Court of Chancery, which had narrowed the effect of preceding decisions. But the provisions of this bill were at variance with its preamble, and with the declaration of Mr. Dillwyn, himself that he did not mean to touch the property of the Church of England. He proceeded to show that the bill would touch that property in its most vital manner. It swept away the authority of all past decisions, while its effect would be to defeat its own object by putting a ban upon the future appointment of Dissenters as trustees. The bill sent from the House of Lords (Lord Cranworth's bill) was, in his opinion, well worthy of the attention of the House; and he thought Mr. Dillwyn would consult the interests of Dissenters by withdrawing his bill, and allowing the House to deal with the subject upon principles commensurate with the magnitude of the interests involved in the question.

MR. SELWYN explained and justified the rule adopted by courts of equity in these questions. He moved to defer the second reading for six months.

This amendment was seconded by Mr. LONGFIELD.

LORD FERNYHOUGH regarded the speech of Mr. Lowe as Jesuitical. According to the rule that the intentions of donors should be implicitly followed, the great majority of Church property would go to Rome. The practical question was, what the founders would have done had they lived at the present time. Regarding the bill as founded upon sound notions of Protestantism, it should have his hearty support.

MR. A. MILLS assigned reasons for supporting the amendment, although he had voted for the second reading of the bill of last Session.

MR. BAINES supported the bill.

After a very few remarks by Mr. ROEBUCK and Mr. BEECROFT, MR. WALTER said that while he did not desire to see Dissenters excluded from these schools, he could not vote for a sweeping measure which overruled all the decisions of the courts. He regarded it as a second serious attack upon the Church of England, which would be succeeded by other attacks still more serious.

Upon a division the amendment was carried by 190 to 120; so the bill is lost.

FACTORY LABOUR.

On the order for the second reading of the Bleaching and Dyeing Works Bill, moved by Mr. CROOK.

MR. TURNER said the object of the bill was to place bleaching and dyeing works under the operation of the Factories Acts, but he adduced evidence to show that there was no analogy between the two cases. The bill, while it would not succeed in securing the object in view, would disarrange and embarrass an important trade. He read returns of the hours of labour and the health of the operatives in the works to prove that their condition was better than that of operatives in factories, and moved to defer the second reading for six months.

MR. ROEBUCK reminded the House of the unfulfilled predictions of ruin to the manufacturers confidently uttered when Lord Ashley's Bill was under discussion, and read evidence from the report of the Committee and from that of Mr. Tremere of the sufferings of the operatives in bleaching and dyeing works. He did not care whether there was any analogy between these works and factories; there was an analogy of suffering, and he appealed to the House not to participate in these horrible cruelties.

MR. COBBETT supported the bill, and read accounts of the excessive labour exacted in bleaching establishments since the recommendation of the Committee of 1837 that the number of hours should be reduced.

LORD J. MANNERS gave his hearty support to the bill.

SIR H. CAIRNS pointed out the distinction between the bleaching works in England and those in the north of Ireland, and the evil consequences of interfering with the latter. He wished Ireland to be excepted from the operation of the bill.

After some further discussion, in which Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. CONOLLY, and Mr. A. ESKRINTON participated, the House divided, when the second reading of the bill was carried by 226 to 39.

The remaining orders were gone through, and the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

TROOPS FOR CHINA.

The Duke of SOMERSET, in reply to the Earl of Ellenborough, said the Government were fully alive to the importance of providing adequate supplies for the troops that were leaving India for China, and were taking measures to carry out that object. The number of troops ordered upon that expedition was 10,000.

QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES ABOLITION BILL.

LORD TRENHAM moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which was to relieve Dissenters from the necessity of making certain declarations on their appointment to municipal offices.

LORD CHILMSFORD opposed the bill as unnecessary and uncalled for, believing that the existing law imposed no grievance upon any religious sects or bodies. He moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE supported the second reading, believing that those declarations were wholly inoperative for any good, and were most offensive to the feelings of Dissenters.

The Earl of DERRY viewed the bill under consideration as one of a series of measures that were supported by a certain party who avowed their hostility to the Church Establishment, and their determination to devote all their exertions to its overthrow; he should therefore oppose the second reading.

The Bishop of CHICHESTER also stated his objections to the bill.

The LORD CHANCELLOR supported it.

Upon a division the bill was rejected by a majority of 41 to 21.

The Medical Acts Amendment Bill, the Packet Service (Transfer of Contracts) Bill, and the Consolidated Fund (£1,500,000) Bill were severally read a third time and passed.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE REFORM BILL.

MR. GRIFFITH asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether it was intended that the voters at £6 rent and upwards, whose rates are now compounded for by their landlords, should have the opportunity at the next registration of qualifying themselves as voters, by taking on themselves the payment of rates for the past year, or otherwise, as may be arranged, to effect such object?

LORD J. RUSSELL said he would consider the matter before going into Committee on the bill.

NEWSPAPER STAMP.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to Mr. Western, said that on Monday next he hoped to present the bill upon the subject of the impressed stamp on newspapers, when he would explain to the House the intentions of the Government regarding it.

TIMBER DUTIES.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to Mr. Adams, said it was not the intention of the Government to allow a drawback in respect to ships now in course of construction.

THE REFORM BILL.—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

MR. STANFELD opened the adjourned debate upon the Reform Bill, and, in a speech characterised by much ability and argument, gave his support to the measure.

SIR J. PAKINGTON remarked that, up to the present moment, he had waited in vain for any one on the Ministerial side of the House to stand up in defence of the bill upon its own intrinsic merits. All that its advocates could say in its favour was that it was a step in the right direction. The hon. member for Birmingham (Mr. Bright), who had become a kind of English O'Connell, said he merely accepted of the measure as a step in advance, because he knew that he could not obtain all his objects except upon the instalment principle. He (Sir J. Pakington) was not surprised at the cold reception the bill had met with, even from the strongest supporters of the Government, for it was a miserable measure. He could only account for its meagre character by the fact of its having been the project of a divided Cabinet, or the unwilling redemption of a pledge on the part of a Government whose attention was distracted by the unsettled position of foreign affairs. He was sorry that the noble Lord who had been so long identified with this question of Reform had not produced a measure more worthy of his name and of the Government from which it proceeded.

SIR G. GREY defended the bill, and said that it was framed in a spirit conformable with the Constitution, and with a sincere desire to amend the representation of the people. If Sir J. Pakington and his friends were really hostile to the measure, why had they not adopted the fair and open course of joining issue with the Government upon the second reading?

MR. ADDERLEY attributed the bill to the inspiration of Mr. Bright. He expressed a hope that when it went into Committee it would be so amended as to make it more acceptable to the country and more in unison with the principles of the British Constitution.

MR. MASSIE said he was desirous of supporting a bill which would have the effect of settling the question of Reform and the constitution of that House for many years to come—a result which he could not anticipate from the present measure, although, no doubt, it would make a liberal addition to the constituencies. In conclusion, he advised Lord John Russell to revise the bill so as to make it one worthy of himself, of Parliament, and of the country.

MR. STEUART objected to the bill because he believed it to be utterly and thoroughly defective.

MR. CROSSLEY thought the measure was too restrictive in its character, and suggested certain amendments with the view to a more liberal enlargement of the franchise.

MR. KEE SEYMER congratulated Sir G. Grey upon the fact of being the only member of the Government who had ventured to speak in favour of the bill. He proceeded to comment at some length upon its defects, and referred to the language used at public meetings by Mr. Bright in which he charged the country gentlemen with having robbed the people for the purpose of maintaining large military and naval establishments in order to obtain appointments for their own sons and relations. The hon. member for Birmingham dared not make such speeches in the presence of educated gentlemen, but uttered his libels before an ignorant multitude, who would naturally avail themselves of the first opportunity of revenging themselves upon those whom they were thus taught to regard as oppressors.

MR. BAINES supported the bill in its entirety.

MR. WHITESIDE alluded to the case of the recent strike and the pamphlets published in connection with that unfortunate movement, for the purpose of showing that the working classes were not capable of exercising the franchise in a wise or legitimate manner.

On the motion of Mr. E. JAMES, the debate was adjourned until Monday.

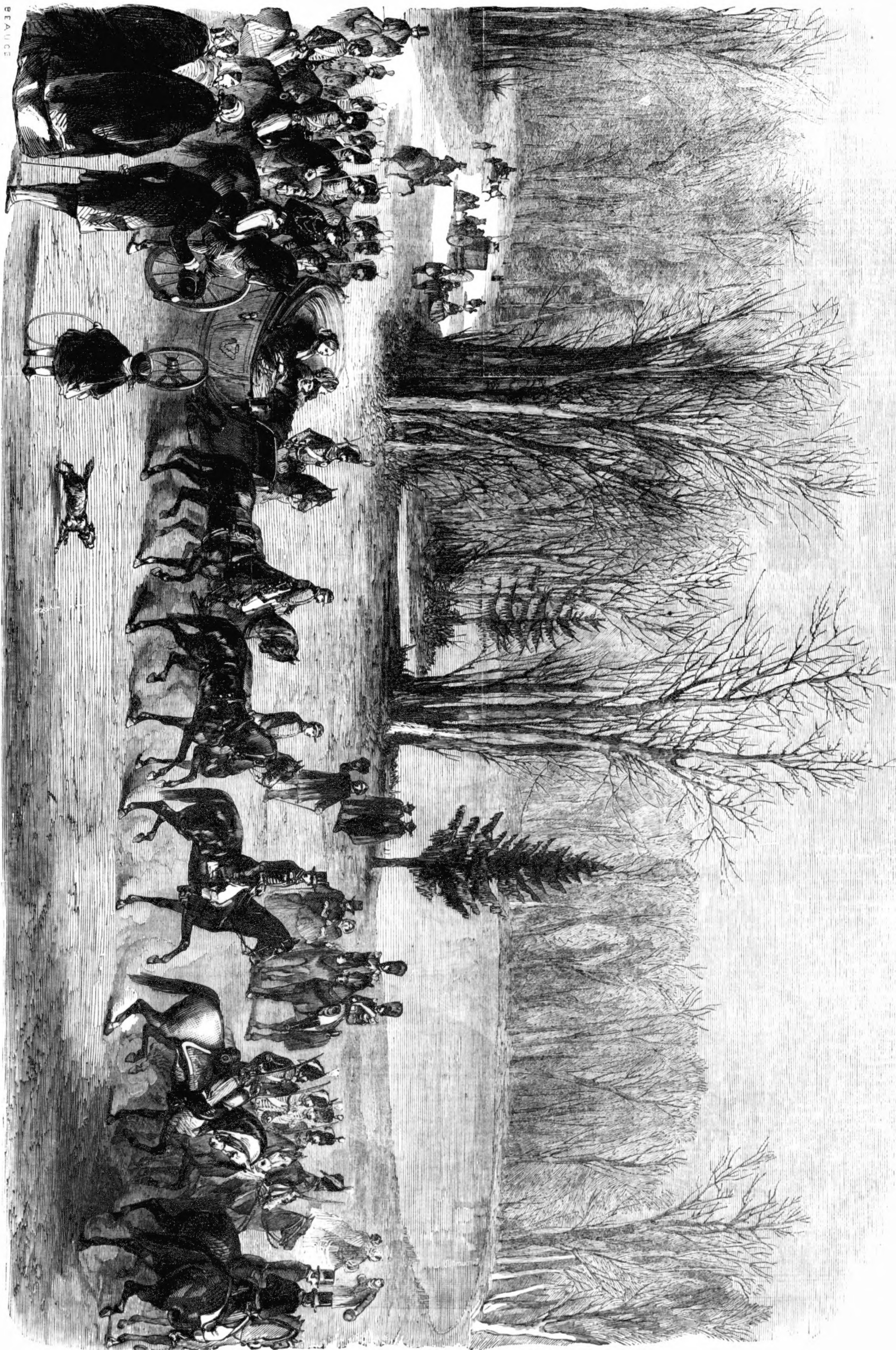
ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—Sir Henry Ainslie Hoare, Bart., of Stourhead House, will contest the Eastern Division of Somersetshire in the Liberal interest at the next general election. Three Whig candidates have addressed the electors of Derry, soliciting the seat vacant by the death of Sir Robert Ferguson. Report gives as many more as likely to appear on the Conservative side. The declared candidates are Mr. McCormick, railway contractor; Mr. Greer, barrister; and Mr. George Skipton. The Tenant-right League will struggle hard for their advocate, Greer, who represented Derry county in the last Parliament. The Liberals of Norwich, in public meeting assembled, have fixed on Sir W. Russell and Mr. E. Warner for their candidates; the Conservatives, after private consultation, on Mr. Lewis, Q.C. Leeds is one of the four towns promised by the Reform Bill a third member; and the additional seat is solicited by the Hon. S. A. Donaldson, late one of the Ministry of New South Wales, and Mr. Forster, candidate at the last election. Mr. Alderman Padmore has been elected member for Worcester, without opposition, in the room of Mr. Laslett. In declaring Mr. Padmore duly elected, Mr. Wood, the returning officer, said that forty years ago he and Mr. Padmore came to Worcester with their aprons on as working men. He mentioned the fact in order that the working classes might see that it was possible for them to raise themselves to high positions. The Beverley Election Committee met for the last time on Saturday and agreed to its report, which declared that James Robert Walker, Esq., was duly elected.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.—Lord John Russell on Wednesday received a deputation from the Tower Hamlets on the subject of the representation of this borough. The claims of that populous and wealthy constituency to a larger number of members than it possesses were urged by the deputation, and acknowledged by the Minister to be weighty. But all the satisfaction the gentlemen received was contained in an assurance that the subject would receive the serious attention of the Government.—A deputation from Salford, on a similar errand, has seen Lord Palmerston and Sir George Grey. The claims of that populous and rising community to an additional member were set forth at length. In reply, Lord Palmerston said he thought the House of Commons would object; for if population claims were alone admitted the constituencies would approach to the state of electoral districts. He also said that Salford was almost part of Manchester, and connected in the representation. However, the usual promise of the best consideration was given.

CHURCH RATES.—The Lords' Committee on church rates have agreed upon their report. Their Lordships deny that total abolition is desired even by Dissenters, as a body; and they recommend a scheme which consists mainly in the exemption of those who are willing also to resign their parochial rights in connection with the Church. It is also proposed to give legal facilities for enforcing the collection of the rate from those who do not claim exemption.



RECEPTION BY GENERAL RIOS OF THE ENVOYS FROM MULEY ABBAS, AT YETUAN.



THE PRINCE IMPERIAL OF FRANCE TAKING HIS CARRIAGE RIDE IN THE BOIS DE BOULOGNE.

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EXCEPTION BY GENERAL RIOS OF THE ENVOYS FROM MULEY ABBAS, AT TETUAN.

SOME two or three days after the Spaniards had obtained possession of Tetuan a party of tall and dignified Moors, well attired, well mounted, and with an escort, reached O'Donnell's headquarters, whither they had been forwarded by General Prim, who commanded the corps in advance, and were ushered into the tent of the Commander-in-Chief. The details of what passed beneath the sacred canvas was, of course, enveloped with the customary mystery, but the substance oozed out, and was understood to be to the following effect:—The chief of the envoys was the Kaid of Tangier, and he came from Muley Abbas. Recent events, he said, had convinced the Prince that Allah was not on the side of the Moors, and that therefore they could not conquer; and his Highness had consequently sent to know what the Christians wanted. To this O'Donnell replied that he came to Africa to make war, and not to make peace; and that he could not say what his Government might think fit to demand, but he would send immediately to the Queen of Spain, and make known her answer to the Envoys as soon as his messenger returned. The Moors said they had been deceived as to the Spanish power and resources, which they believed to be much less than it had recently been shown to be, and they were anxious for the struggle to terminate. At the expiration of the time specified by Marshal O'Donnell the same Ambassadors came for a reply. As we have said above, the principal among them was the Governor of Tangier and Riff, a dark, resolute, haughty-looking man, who, in the course of conversation, casually mentioned that, on the 1st of January, in the action of Castillejos, he had cut down two Moors who persisted in running away when he wanted them to fight. The Envoys had come from the camp of Muley Abbas, at about four leagues from Tetuan, on the road to Tangier. They were at once introduced into the tent of O'Donnell, before whom they sat in their usual attitude of respect, with their hands resting on their knees and the palms turned upwards. The General complimented them on the valour of their troops, saying that if the Spaniards had prevailed it was because justice was on their side. The interview was not long, and after it was over the Moors went into a tent occupied by some of the Staff and took coffee. They brought with them a box carefully enveloped in canvas as a present to the General, and there was much conjecture among the bystanders as to its contents, which proved to be some extremely fine dates.

It was not far from sunset when the Moorish cavalcade left the camp, accompanied by General Rios, Governor of Tetuan; and, as the strangely-attired Mohammedans wound down the slope that leads from head-quarter tents to the road, their draped and hooded figures, sitting tall upon their high saddles, covered with crimson or blue cloth, their outlandish accoutrements, and their wild escort of men on foot, contrasted curiously with the modern uniforms of General Rios and his Staff.

The Moors slept in Tetuan that night. Before retiring to rest they took coffee with General Rios at his quarters in the town, and the entertainment that was offered to them is the subject of our illustration. On their way to the camp, early in the day, they saw General Prim, whose tents were pitched in front of Tetuan, and who, like a generous enemy as he is, is always kind and attentive to Moors who come in his way. He made one of the Envoys a present of a revolver, discharging it in his presence that he might see the rapidity of its fire. When giving him the ammunition for it he expressed a hope that it would never be used against the Spaniards.

PROMENADE OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE IN THE BOIS DE BOULOGNE.

ON the 16th inst. the Prince Imperial of France completed his fourth year. He was born late on the 16th of March, and thus only by a few hours lost the honour of having St. Patrick for his patron saint, with, perhaps, the privilege of wearing the shamrock on that Irish fête-day. In the afternoon a deputation of the Grenadiers of the Imperial Guard, conducted by their Colonel, went to the Tuileries to present their congratulations to the Prince, who ranks as corporal in the corps, and who perhaps will very shortly be promoted to sergeant. His Imperial Highness, who is said to perform his military duties with astonishing ease, can, it appears, already read, write, and ride, and, according to all accounts, he is remarkably well and flourishing.

On the preceding page we have published an engraving of the Heir-apparent to the Imperial throne taking his afternoon ride in the Bois de Boulogne. Much state is observed when his little Highness goes abroad; in fact, infinitely more than with the Emperor. The carriage containing the Prince, who is seated on the knees of his "lady in waiting," and supported on the left by his *gouvernante*, Madame Bruat, is preceded by two outriders in green and gold, followed by a party of Chasseurs à Cheval. The officer commanding the detachment of cavalry keeps his position at the Prince's side of the chariot, behind which comes the remainder of the escort. We have ourselves been witness of the affable manner in which his Highness returns the salutes of the promenaders; for on one occasion, overcome by respect for this minute representative of Imperial greatness, we lifted our hat, and were rewarded by the most courteous *ta-ta* of the hand it is possible for a baby to give.

TEMPERANCE AND THE WINE DUTIES.—A deputation representing several hundreds of temperance societies in England and Wales had an interview with Mr. Gladstone, for the purpose of presenting a memorial against the Wine Licences Bill. Mr. Gladstone expressed his conviction that the provisions of his bill would prevent the evils which the deputation apprehended. The deputation then brought before the right hon. gentleman certain facts tending to show that public opinion was favourable to a permissive prohibitory liquor law. At night a great meeting of the Alliance was held in Exeter Hall.

CELEBRATION OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY.—On Saturday a public dinner took place at the London Coffee House, Ludgate-hill, to celebrate the national festival of Ireland, St. Patrick's Day. There was a very numerous and respectable gathering. The O'Donohue, M.P., presided, and among those present were Messrs. J. Pope Hennessy, M.P., J. Blake, M.P., James Burke, William Doyle, John Eugene O'Connell, James M. Deegan, and J. R. Doran. The annual festival of the Benevolent Society of St. Patrick was the same day held at the Freemasons' Tavern. About 150 of its friends and supporters assembled on the occasion. Conspicuous among them were the representatives of the newly-raised corps of Irish Volunteers, who, attired in uniform, attended in great force. Viscount Masserene and Ferrar occupied the chair. He was supported by Mr. Cardwell, the Chief Secretary, and Mr. Deasy, the Attorney General. Colonel Dunne, M.P., Mr. C. Fortescue, M.P., Sir Percy Nugent, Major-General Watkins, and Major-General Sir Justin Shiel were also present.

NEW POST OFFICE REGULATIONS.—A notice has been issued by the Post Office which mentions the alterations made in regard to the latest times for posting letters, &c., at the chief office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, for the provincial, colonial, and foreign mails. The time for posting letters by the morning mails is extended. Letters for the provinces by the evening mails may be posted up to 6 p.m. without a fee till 7 p.m. if bearing an extra penny stamp, or until 7.30 p.m. with an extra 6d. stamp. Newspapers and book packets will be forwarded up to the same hours with extra fees ranging from 3d., 4d., and 1d. Letters can be registered at the chief office for the morning mails between 7 and 7.15 a.m., and for the evening mails till 5.30 p.m. Letters by the day mail to France may be posted without fee till 11.45 a.m. The notice includes an amended list of post towns to which letters and newspapers may be forwarded by the morning and day mails. Attention is directed to the necessity of depositing letters, &c., in the proper box.

DESPERATE FIGHT WITH BURGLARS.—Early on Sunday morning a desperate struggle took place between three burglars and a butler at No. 30, York-place, Portman-square. The thieves had entered the house-keeper's room, which communicates with the butler's pantry, and had packed up the plate ready for removal; but, hoping to carry off other valuables, a search was commenced, the noise of which awoke the house-keeper, who, screaming violently, brought the butler to her assistance, armed with a dagger. On his approach the light was extinguished, and a fearful onslaught was made by the ruffians, who stabbed and cut the butler terribly. Meantime he was not idle, but on stabbing one of the ruffians the dagger broke, and he was felled to the ground by a blow from a life-preserver. The burglars then escaped.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1860.

THE BLEACHWORKS BILL.

ON Wednesday afternoon the House of Commons decided, by a vote of 226 to 39, in favour of pursuing the humane policy associated for many years now with the name of Ashley. The occasion was the second reading of Mr. Crook's bill for bringing bleaching and dyeing works under the same sort of regulation as factories, with a view to shortening the labours and alleviating the sufferings of the workpeople in such establishments. We heartily welcome this result, not only for its own sake, but for that of the principle which it involves; and we desire, also, to call attention to the debate which preceded the division.

Everybody knows that the representatives of the manufacturers are, as a rule, opposed to the kind of legislation under review. They make no disguise of it. They argue openly that the State ought not to interfere between master and man, but that the former should be left to make money by whatever employment of the labour of young and old, weak and strong, that he pleases. It is an affair of trade, they say; and with trade humanity has nothing to do. If I can get profit (such a man virtually argues) out of the toil of little girls—weak, pale, tortured, unhappy though they be—what is that to you, the State? It lies out of your province. In short, he takes the same ground that the slaveholders in Southern America do. It is a business question. It is an affair of supply and demand. Properly, therefore, as we might remind him, he is not called upon to entertain the subject of cruelty at all; nor bound in any way to deny the misery of the class employed at all. Why, then, does he commit the inconsistency of trying to show that the charges against his system are exaggerated? Why did Mr. Turner, the other night, attempt this—though not venturing to contradict the evidence afterwards quoted by Mr. Roebuck?

We will tell him why he wavers from his principles. Because the same feeling of humanity which makes Reformers try to amend such abuses still lurks in his own mind, in spite of what he calls his "political economy." Because his heart bids him be ashamed of what his tongue is employed to defend. The plain truth—if Mr. Turner does not yet know it—is that the moral is higher than the economical law. It is no answer to anybody wishing to extirpate cruelty that cruelty is an incident of trade, and that trade ought to be free. We all know that, as a general economical truth, trade ought to be free. But there is another still more comprehensive truth, that life ought to be human. If we were beavers or ants there might be some propriety in only obeying the instincts of accumulation as "freely" as possible, because our nature would admit of nothing better. But it is because we are spiritual and immortal beings that this does not satisfy us. Economical truths are most valuable (all truths are) as far as they go. But we must not allow them to override and suppress all other truths. It is, indeed, very unjust to political economy to cover every sort of greediness and immorality with her name. She teaches the laws under which nations grow rich, but it is no part of her business to regulate their whole life. The State is as much justified in regulating any dangerous or injurious results arising from trade as from any other department of life. Why should not cruelty to factory children or dyers' children be legislated against as well as any other cruelty? The manufacturers can give no reason, except that it is profitable. This would not be listened to from a coarser monger who pleaded it against a charge of severity to a donkey.

Mr. Turner, indeed, brought forward the old story that the trade would be ruined if it was meddled with. But, as Mr. Roebuck well showed in his spirited speech, the same story was heard when the Factory Act was agitated, and the result has falsified it. Ruined! The cotton-spinners are so far from being ruined that they threaten to be the chief power in the kingdom, and are at this moment the main prop of the Ministry. Surely such potent interests can spare the little children somewhat; if it is only so far that their feet do not blister, and their legs do not grow deformed. We notice "a laugh" reported in one passage of Mr. Roebuck's speech where he was quoting official authority for facts that would shock us if Livingstone told them about the tribes of the Upper Niger. We congratulate the House of Commons on that laugh, which we suspect will raise a very ugly echo some day! It shows us how accurately the House still continues to be designated by its admirers an assembly of gentlemen.

A common trick of those who are charged with the maintenance of an evil is to point out that other evils exist elsewhere. A Southern Yankee taunted with slavery retorts by saying that the European workman is badly treated too. Mr. Turner, in defending the dyers, thought it helped him to remark on the misery of London seamstresses. Were he a London slopseller he would, on the same principle, retaliate on the dyers; and it is delightful to see these people helping to damage each other. But the answer is simple. One evil does not justify another; and the State is right to attack them one at a time. It is not so easy to get at the oppressors of the London needlewomen, because the work is not concentrated in large establishments, but scattered over an immense city. We can bring inspectors and laws to bear on the bleachers and dyers, and therefore we avail ourselves of the convenience of the position. Other good legislation, we may hope, will be possible by and by. But, meanwhile, we must not forget that this last act of legislative humanity did not pass—has not passed—unopposed. It may prepare us for the future of the country in time.

OUR FRENCH FELLOW-SUBJECTS.—Two French Transatlantic papers—*Le Courrier des Etats Unis* and *Journal de Quebec*—are busy getting up the muster-roll of French habitants under British rule. They compute 20,000 in Newfoundland; 2500 at St. Pierre; 16,000 at Cape Breton; 16,000 in Nova Scotia; 16,000 in Prince Edward Island; 25,000 in New Brunswick; 700,000 in Lower and 40,000 in Upper Canada; with 10,000 at Hudson's Bay. Meantime disaffection to the British Crown and hostility to all who stand by the mother country are said to be fostered by a local faction at St. John's.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY left Osborne on Wednesday for Buckingham Palace to pass a fortnight in town before Easter.

HER MAJESTY, in all likelihood, will review the volunteer corps of the metropolis and such localities as may render attendance convenient, in the course of the month of June, in Hyde Park.

THE DUKE OF MAGENTA (Marshal M'Mahon) is appointed to command the Chalons camp, which, according to some reports, will be augmented to the strength of 100,000 men.

THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY and TALBOT is to preside at the ensuing anniversary festival of the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, which will be held at the London Tavern on the 17th of April.

PRAYERS were offered up on Sunday in all the garrison chapels at Dover on behalf of Miss Nightingale, who remains seriously ill.

M. MICHEL CHEVALIER has been elevated to the French Senate.

THE FRENCH GUN-BOATS which were to leave Toulon to join the Chinese expedition have been ordered to remain, and it is believed that this has been resolved upon on account of their impracticability. But we hear that some transport-ships destined for Algeria have likewise been retained.

MR. GYE has granted the free use of the Theatre Royal Covent-garden for a benefit in aid of the funds of the Royal Dramatic College, on Thursday, the 29th inst. Most of the principal members of the theatrical profession are to be brought together.

A PORTRAIT OF THE CELEBRATED MADAME RECAMIER, painted by Baron Gérard, was sold last week at the public sale-rooms, Rue Drouot, Paris, for the sum of 19,800*fr.* Extraordinary curiosity was excited by the exhibition of this picture. Upwards of 10,000 people went to look at it.

THE RACECOURSE at NEWMARKET is to have a telegraph-office, united with the railway station by subterranean wires. The powerful telescope recently employed at the Newmarket terminus for reading the information posted high up on the course is of no use in bad weather: hence the new arrangement for transmitting sporting telegrams.

DR. VAUGHAN, late Head Master of Harrow School, who recently declined the bishopric of Rochester, will, it is said, be the new Dean of Lincoln.

A CONVENTION has been signed between the Neapolitan and Ottoman Governments for uniting the two countries by telegraph, and putting that line in correspondence with those of Austria and Russia.

THE GUNNERY LIEUTENANTS on board the different ships in Portsmouth harbour are undergoing a course of instruction in the working of the Armstrong gun on board her Majesty's ship *Excellent*.

A PRINTING PRESS, the first of its kind, has been erected in Greenland, and has begun work with the publication of a serial, entitled "Kaladit Okalluktualit," or a collection of the tales and legends of Greenland. It is embellished with woodcuts by a native.

THE TWO CONCLUDING VOLUMES of Mr. Carlyle's "History of Friedrich the Second of Prussia, called Frederick the Great," have just been sent to press. They will be published by Messrs. Chapman and Hall about the beginning of the next season.

THE MEETING OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY in 1860 will take place at Leeds.

THE FRENCH PRINCE IMPERIAL, having been born on the 16th of March, 1856, entered his fifth year on Friday week. He is exceedingly forward for his age, and can already read, write, and ride.

MR. MILLAIS is engaged on a series of drawings on wood to illustrate the Parables. These are of larger dimensions than is usual with book designs.

KING VICTOR EMMANUEL has just entered his forty-first year, having been born on the 14th of March, 1820.

A PILGRIMAGE TO ROME has been organised. A number of English Roman Catholics leave London this day.

A GREAT BILLIARD MATCH between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge is to take place about the end of this month.

THE EXPORT DUTY UPON RAGS which the Emperor Napoleon proposes to substitute for the absolute prohibition hitherto in force will amount, it is said, to about 100 per cent on the price of common rags, and 50 per cent on the price of the best quality.

AN ANCIENT USAOK, which dates from the time of Henry IV.—that of giving agricultural lectures on Sunday after mass—has lately been revived in some communes of France, under Government patronage.

M. LESSEPS makes known that he has received an autograph letter from the Emperor of Abyssinia, offering to support the canal scheme with "all the resources of his empire."

TWO MANCHESTER GENTLEMEN, whose names are not given, have offered a first prize of £100, and a second prize of £50, for the best two "Essays on Revivals." The judges are to be the Rev. Frebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral, and the Rev. Charles Stovell, a Dissenting minister.

A "RELIC OF THE TRUE CROSS," encased in jewels worth some thousands of pounds, the property of an English nobleman, has been exhibited at a convent at Clifton lately.

A LARGE PORTION OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOES has been destroyed by fire. The value of the property burnt amounted to half a million, only some £30,000 of which were insured.

M. MAURICE DUBUYANT, the son of Madame George Sand, is gazetted a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

A SLIGHT SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE was felt in the valley of Upper Strathgarn lately. The tremor of the earth was slight, but, as usual, the shock was accompanied with a loud, rumbling noise, and came from the south-west and proceeded to the north-east. The sky was dark and lowering.

THE COMMUNAL COUNCIL OF AMSTERDAM has resolved to raise a loan of three millions of florins, for the purpose of making a canal to connect Amsterdam directly with the Northern Sea.

A BULGARIAN JOURNAL, published by Russians, is about to appear at Constantinople.

IN BENGAL FEVER and CHOLERA have been making frightful havoc. In the district around Buxar alone 3000 have died during the past two months. According to the *Cochin Courier*, cholera has broken out in the gaol at Calcutta, and in five days carried off 100 out of 400 prisoners.

ST. ANDREW'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, DUNDREE, was crowded to excess on Sunday on the occasion of the ceremony of "taking of the veil" by two young ladies who had resolved to become nuns.

THE REMAINS OF THE LATE BARON WATSON were interred in Christ Church Burial-ground, Welshpool, on Saturday.

VISCOUNT ST. VINCENT met with a serious accident lately by the bursting of his gun while out rabbit-shooting at Todmersham Park. His left hand is severely lacerated.

A FRENCH AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL publishes an article pointing out the great advantages to be derived from the use of the brine in which herrings have been cured as a manure for land.

A SCREW SHIP-OF-THE-LINE, called *Maséna*, of 100 guns and 900-horse power, was launched a few days ago at Toulon.

GREAT NUMBERS OF BOSNIAN RAYAHs are said to be crossing the frontier into Austria. The poor people say that the ferocious Beys intend to massacre all the Christians in the province of Bosnia.

A DISCOVERY has been made in the Temple of the Sphinx, close to the second pyramid of Gizeh; it consists of a statue of King Chephren, founder of the second great pyramid. This statue is entire, of good finish, and seated in a chair, the arms of which end in lions' heads.

THE QUANTITY OF PAPER of all kinds on which duty was paid during the year 1859 was 217,827,197lb., and the duty paid was £1,429,490 19s. 8d.

UNDER THE NEW MANAGEMENT there is a good prospect of the *Great Eastern* being really completed and sent to sea. The whole of the £100,000 of additional preference capital recently authorised to be raised has been taken up by the present proprietors.

THE VIENNA POLICE have only recovered 70,000 florins among the assets of Baron von Eynatten, being but a small fraction of his plunderings. His son got off, via Hamburg, to the Far West.

AFTER SEVENTEEN YEARS, the Commissioners appointed to compile a Dutch and Japanese dictionary have finished the first five letters of the Japanese alphabet—*lo, no, to, ro, ko*. The expense, at this rate, will amount to nearly £7000.

A PRINTING-OFFICE, in which the work is wholly performed by women, has been opened in Great Cornam-street, Brunswick-square, by Miss Emily Faithfull, a lady who devotes much time to promoting the employment of women.

A REPORT prevailed on Saturday that Sir George Cornwall Lewis, disaffected to the Budget, contemplated resignation. The rumour is emphatically contradicted by the *Globe*.

MR. BAYAN KING has commenced an action against Mr. Herbert, the chief constable of the parish, for trespass. He has also caused five other persons to be served with writs.

THE TOTAL SUM realised by subscription for Sir James Brooke amounted to £9000. His health is still very indifferent, and Captain Brooke has proceeded to Borneo as chief of the Sarawak Government, and representative of Sir James. All efforts to induce the British Government to purchase the settlement are now relinquished.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE Conservatives are getting alarmed at the Reform Bill. The more steadfastly they look at it the less they like it. They fear that the influx of such a number of 26 occupiers in boroughs and 210 renters in counties will go far to destroy the power of the Conservative party; but they cannot oppose the bill, for an opposition would put them in this difficulty: they see that the bill will, most likely, ultimately pass, and, in that case, if they were to oppose it, they would have to meet the new constituencies as opponents of their enfranchisement—they would have to ask the very men for their votes whom they had in Parliament declared to be unfit to be voters. This is an awkward dilemma, from which there is no escape. They hate the bill, but they dare not seriously oppose it. I do not believe, however, that they have much to fear at present; for my experience leads me to think that in county towns and counties the lower class of voters under the new bill will be quite as ready to vote for Conservatives as for Radicals—or, at all events, as for Whigs. There was a good deal of truth in Disraeli's assertion that it will be the Whig party that will suffer the most. In many towns with which I am acquainted the working-man will vote for a Radical or a Conservative, but not for a Whig; and it is not an uncommon thing for him to prefer a Conservative to either a Whig or a Radical. The explanation of this curious phenomenon is not difficult to discover. In the first place, there is a good deal of the old reverence for landed gentlemen left amongst the poor; and, in the next, the Conservatives have always been more ready to help labour against the tyranny of capital than either the Whigs or the Radicals; and, generally, there is a wider gulf between the poor and the class just above them—that which we call the middle class—than there is between the poor and the born gentlemen. The new bill will, however, if it become law, have no small effect upon the Conservative party, and the effect will be this:—It will tend to compel the Conservatives to move onward in the course of practical reform still faster than they have done. They have during the last twenty years made rapid strides in this direction, and when they shall have the impulsive power of a large popular constituency behind them they will move still faster.

Several gentlemen have been named as likely to try for the representation of the University of London. Mr. Grote has been mentioned; as also Mr. Francis Newman and Dr. Foster. It is, however, understood that Mr. Grote will not stand against a Graduate of the University; Mr. F. Newman is Latin Professor of University College, and amongst a certain class, is popular; but he holds strongly sceptical views on religious questions, and on this account it is very doubtful whether he would succeed if he were to try. Dr. Foster is really a candidate, and I think with every prospect of success. Dr. Foster is a Dissenter, and the chairman of the "Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Control;" and as, from the character of the University, a vast majority of the Graduates must be Dissenters, I should imagine that the Doctor will have a fair chance of success. He has, however, another recommendation besides that of being a Dissenter. He has taken the high degree of LL.D. in the University. The Doctor is a barrister by profession, and belongs to a well-known family which for many years has been engaged in banking and mercantile pursuits in the counties of Huntingdon, Cambridge, and Bedford. The bill provides at present that all Graduates of a certain standing shall have votes; but it is not improbable that an alteration may be made here, and that none but those who have kept their names on the books, or shall enter them there by the payment, annually, of a half-guinea subscription, will be allowed to vote—or, in other words, that none but members of the Convocation shall be enfranchised. There is something to be said on both sides. If a rule of the sort were to be adopted the constituency would be very much narrowed; but, on the other hand, the revenues of the University would be increased. The number of Graduates capable of voting under the bill as it stands is at present about 1000. The number of Convocation is at present about 400.

Courteous M. Gambert gathered round him on Saturday last the usual crowd of "private-view" frequenters at his pleasant little French Gallery in Pall-mall. There were the pretty ladies, the popular authors, and the fashionable clergymen who came to be stared at, the newspaper critics who came to stare, and the artists who came to growl. The new exhibition contains a few very good pictures, and a large amount of mediocrity. Freaks of French taste have been rigorously discouraged; student life, and outside-the-barrier fêtes, have been strictly tabooed; the proprieties have been rigidly enforced; and the consequence is, that the whole gallery breathes of simplicity and domestic virtue. The celebrities are scarcely so successful as usual. In both his little pictures M. Meissonier has introduced a heavy, lurid, sultry tint of the hue of those flames which come up the trap when Don Juan goes down; and Mlle. Rosa Bonheur is certainly not beyond, if up to, her usual work in her "Mare and Foal"—a very spotty and dabby group of fawns, for which latter picture she modestly asks three hundred guineas. Her style is assiduously copied by M. Veyrasset, who shows considerable ability. M. Dubufe, best known to English connoisseurs as a portrait-painter, is not very happy in his picture of "The Conscrip's Departure and Return," which somewhat resembles the illuminated transparencies on Royal birthdays. The gems of the room are Edouard Frère's delightfully-finished renderings of child-life. The "Boy Sliding" is a marvel of exquisite execution, the atmospheric effect in the background being perfectly true to nature, while the mossy boys who tie up their ears and can't slide are lifelike. Frère's other pictures are equally good. The most ridiculous picture in the collection is one by M. Banguet of Edgar Ravenswood and Lucy Ashton, in which Edgar's plaid is represented as a singularly thick, variegated bolster, while its bearer is modeled after a bad style of Belgian waiter at a third-rate café.

The subscription for M. Jullien's family should be a large one, for the late conductor was a real benefactor to the English musical public. His first great loss was in the attempt to establish a national English Opera on the grandest scale, when he introduced Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Whitworth, and Miss Catherine Hayes to the public. A kinder-hearted or more honourable man never lived; he paid his way until a succession of unexpected misfortunes fell upon him with dreadful rapidity, and many a musical professor has been the recipient of his charity.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

A pretty piece of *diablerie*, written for the display of Madame Celeste's abilities and taste, has been produced at the LYCEUM, under the title of the "Abbé Vaudreuil." It is beautifully mounted, and has some charming scenery by Mr. Calicott.

Mr. Webster has made a great hit at Glasgow with the drama of "Janet Pride," the anti-alcoholic moral of which, as imitatively rendered by him, has taken the teetotalers by storm.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S VISIT TO CANADA.—The squadron ordered to assemble at Spithead for the purpose of conveying the Prince of Wales across the Atlantic on his visit to Canada will consist of the *Hero*, 91, screw, Captain George H. Seymour, who will hoist his broad pennant as Commander of the squadron; the *Adriatic*, 26, screw, Captain E. W. Vansittart; the *Flyingfish*, 6, screw, Commander Charles W. Hope; and the Royal paddle-steam *Osborne*, Master-Commander George H. K. Bower. His Royal Highness will take his passage out and home in the *Hero*, one of the finest 91-gun ships in her Majesty's Navy. The *Osborne* will be retained for service on the coasts and rivers of Canada during the stay of his Royal Highness in that colony.

ARMS FOR SARDINIA.—The Continental Press, which had asserted that our Government had made a present to the King of Sardinia of sixty pieces of rifled cannon, is now brought to confess that it was mistaken, and that these cannon have been simply ordered from private firms, and will be paid for by the Sardinian Government. As long as war is not declared, transactions of this kind have no public importance.

THE CHINESE DIFFICULTY.—Further correspondence relative to the Chinese difficulty has been published. Mr. Bruce, in one despatch, enters into a vindication of his conduct in the Pao-chow affair. The other part of the correspondence consists of various letters having reference to a request made by Mr. Bruce to Governor Ho, at Swatow, that British ships, in the matter of tonnage dues, should be placed on an equality with American. The assent of the Emperor was at once obtained and conveyed to Mr. Bruce by the Governor in polite terms.

Literature.

The Odes of Horace, Translated into English Verse, with a Life and Notes. By THEODORE MARTIN. London: J. W. Parker and Son, West Strand.

The art of translating, unlike many branches of original composition, seems to mature itself less through individual talent than through the progressive requirements of public taste and experience, and the desire that we feel collectively not to get the conceptions of the foreigner clothed in our own national forms of verse and diction, perhaps our own collocations of imagery and rhetoric, but to realise to ourselves his style and his numbers, his figures and associations, as far as they can be conveyed in our language without painful distortion or obscurity. The transferring license of our old translators is gradually getting dropped in respect, at least, to all originals in a modern European language; and a Hoole of the present day would scarce venture to break up the broad flow of the stanzas of a Tasso into the little sparkling couplets of our Queen Anne school, or to scatter the mild radiance of his descriptive eloquence in the flashes of their reiterated antitheses. With old Greek and Latin writers the case is not the same. There is a gulf between their language and ours that direct imitation cannot bridge over. We cannot English the Ciceronian rhythm nor the cadence of Horace's "Alcaics." Pity that such should be the case; for it is exactly some of these classical writers, and not any of the modern Germans or Italians, that we can read over and again more for "word than matter," whether to learn the brilliancy and precision that flow from the free grouping of inflected words in sentences, or the force, fulness, and sonorosity of the well-constructed period or the fine music of prosodial metres. But in English we shall never group words as in a golden verse like

Brachia purpureis candidiora nive.

We shall never, perhaps, make feet of true long and short syllables (or even in pronouncing Latin we so confound the respective quantities, except in the accent-determining penult, that they would never be distinguished without express study); we may sometimes, perhaps, combine our accentual quasi-dactyls, quasi-spondees, &c., like the classical dactyls and spondees; but the best hexameters so constructed are seldom otherwise than rude and jerky in their movement; and how, then, could lyric measures of ours, framed on the same principle, retain any of the smoothness or sweetness that characterise the Latin words adapted to Hollic numbers?

But the more infeasible we are impelled to judge any direct imitation of the Horatian measures the more important must we deem it that the translator should make a truly tasteful and felicitous choice of the stanzas within his reach, that correspond most aptly, first, in being imbued with a similar feeling, whether "grave or gay, lively or severe," in the successive odes; secondly, in being of manageable length, so that the pauses and the natural divisions in the original may not be performed transposed and reassorted in the translation, nor yet preserved only by dint of inordinate paraphrase and verbiage, or only by skipping words and details—a thing most translators eschew more devoutly than any tautology, but which yet perches in Horace, as we own to reading him more "in word than matter," we could often pardon with more readiness.

Perhaps the best measure used by Mr. Martin, both for its suitable compass and for its impressive cadence, is that which he has borrowed from Ben Jonson for the first ode of book iv.

Intermissa diu, Venus,
Rursus bella movent. Parce, precor, precor—

which, in the words of our eminent dramatist, judiciously modernised by Mr. Martin, begins thus:—

Venus, dost thou renew a fray
Long intermitted? Spare me, spare, I pray!
I am not such as in the reign
Of the good Dynars I was. Refrain,
Sweet Love's four mother, him to school,
Whom lustres ten have hark'd not to thy rule
And soft behests, and his thee where
Youth calls to thee with many a fondling prayer.
More fitly, if thou seek to tire
A bosom apt for love and soft desire,
Come, borne by bright-winged swans, and thus
Revel in the house of Paulus Maximus.

The same metre suits well in the first epode, and might, we think, have been carried further in that book. A slight variation is used for the Alcaics of book ii., ode 1, less legitimately at first sight, for the number of stanzas is doubled, but perhaps with judgment if we consider the disparity of Horace's own periods with his numbers.

The civil wars that date
Back from Metellus' luckless consulate,
The causes of the strife,
Its ills, with fresh seeds of turmoil rife,
The turns of Fortune's tide, &c.,

An excellent metre is found for the ode on Lydia and Sybaris, which we shall quote at large at the end of this article; and also for the ode to "Lydia, the old woman," although this last is rather paraphrased than translated, but with much spirit. The first verse is—

Swains in numbers
Break your slumbers.
Saucy Lydia, now but seldom,
Ay, though at your casement nightly,
Tapping loudly, tapping lightly,
By the dozen once you held them.

On the other hand, the stanza of book i., ode 2 (where we take from the middle the verses)—

What god shall we to save the state from doom
Implore? By what prayer shall virgins pure
Their Vesta's ear so long regardless lure
To listen to their quibbled hymns! To whom
Will Jove assign the office and the might
To expiate our guilt? Oh, to our pray'r,
Augur Apollo! here at length repair,
Veiling in cloud thy shoulders ivory-white—

has not the liveliness and pliability of the original Sapphics, and, by its complexity, sometimes tempts the translator to verbiage. Again, Mr. Martin has found several forms in which Horace's Alcaics can be rendered with much elegance, but the elaborate and harmonious ode (iv., 9)—

Ne forte credas interitura quoniam
Longe sonantem natus ad Ausdum,

loses much of its dignity by the jerky, slipshod metre of—

Never deem they must perish, the verses which I,
Who was born where the waters of Ausdum roar,
To the chords of the lyre with a cunning ally
Unknown to the bards of my country before.

We need almost the richness and smoothness of Moore's versification to make Horace's compositions step, on a foot like this, with their native grace. Still more does our ear desiderate the solemn tone and terse dignity of—

O matre pulchra filia pulchrior!
O thou, a fair mother's fairer daughter!

in the blarneying fluency of—

Oh, daughter, in beauty more exquisite still
Than a mother whose beauty we all must admire!

But enough of these examples. Mr. Martin's success in the choice of metres is niffl and unequal; yet such, on the whole, as to afford encouraging symptoms as to the progress of Horatian translation. In his diction we see sometimes a lurking inclination to slang to which we do not think the fastidious Venusian could have reconciled himself. There may be a slang in classic authors that we moderns are not up to; but we do not suspect it. We will not instance the paraphrase of book i., ode 8; it is a duplicate version, and Mr. Martin, having finished his task, had a right to indulge in a bit of fun; but why should

the gracefully and reverentially-described Phyllis, in the ode to Xanthius Phocens (ii., 4), be called "the shoot of some highly respectable stem"? and why "count, I'll be sworn, a few Kings in her tree;" and why should the planter of the tree which endangered the life of Horace be solemnly cursed under the formula "whatever his station in the land I" and accused to have

Bravely Colchian poisons in his time,
And practised every sort of crime?

An expression more fine-lady-like, but equally small, comes in to fill up a gap in the bad metre of book i., ode 7:—
Some will laud fair Mitylene

Thebes, renowned for Bacchus; Delphi,
Famous for Apollo's shrine;
Others praise Thessalian Tempe,
And its thousand charms divine.

Such cut and dry expressions may suit a person who would talk away before his thoughts are formed in his head, but hardly a writer like Horace, who so courted immortality by his elaborate rhythm and language.

But we proceed, according to promise, to quote an entire ode which will perhaps give, despite of some obscure constructions, an impression of the most spirited and graceful style achieved in these translations:—

Why, Lydia, why,
I pray by all the gods above,
Art so resolved that Sybaris should
die,
And all for love?

Why doth he shun
The Campus Martius' sultry glare?
He that once reeked of neither
dust nor sun,
Why rides he there,

First of the brave,
Taming the Gallic steel no more?
Why doth he shrink from Tiber's
yellow wave?
Why thus abhor

The wrestler's oil
As 't were from viper's tongue
distilled?
Why do his arms no livid bruises
soil,
He once so skilled

The disc or dart
Far, far beyond the mark to hurl?
And tell me, tell, why in some nook
apart,
Like baby girl,

Lurks the poor boy,
Veiling his manhood, as did Thetis'
son,
To reap war's bloody clang,
while (I ere) fated Troy
Was yet undone?

DEATH OF MRS. JAMESON.—The death of Mrs. Jameson, an authoress whose literary works were of a high class in art and social science, is recorded. Mrs. Jameson was the eldest daughter of Mr. Murphy, painter in ordinary to the Princess Charlotte, a well-known artist in the early part of the present century. She married Mr. Robert Jameson, the late Vice-Chancellor of Canada, whom she survived six years. Her literary labours commenced with the "Diary of an Emigrant" in 1826, followed by numerous volumes on various subjects of biography and art. Her principal and most popular publications were "Characteristics of Women," chiefly studies from Shakespeare; "Visits and Sketches at Home and Abroad," "Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada." In 1842 she published the "Handbook to the Public Galleries of Art in and near London," which was the first of a series of artistic works of subsequent production—viz., on "Sacred and Legendary Art," "Legends of the Monastic Orders," "Legends of the Madonna," &c. One of her last publications was a revised and enlarged edition of "Memoirs of the Early Italian Painters," published by Mr. Murray. For two years past she had been engaged on a laborious and elaborately illustrated work, announced by Messrs. Longman, and nearly completed, the "History of our Lord and of his Precursor, St. John the Baptist, with the Personages and Typical Subjects of the Old Testament as represented in Christian Art." But her intellectual excellence extended in other and nobler directions—in a deep interest in all social and moral questions, as evidenced in her printed lectures on "Sisters of Charity at Home and Abroad" and the "Communion of Labour." Mrs. Jameson's illness was of a few days' duration only. After a visit to the Reading Room of the British Museum she complained of a cold, and in two or three days a severe attack of bronchitis succeeded, from the effects of which she never rallied, expiring on the evening of Saturday, the 17th inst.

REPORTED DEATH OF THE SHAH OF PERSIA.—The *Homecoming Mail*, which had reported the alarming illness of the Shah of Persia, now mentions a rumour that he is dead. His loss, if it has really happened, is a great one to Persia at the present time, for his reign must be followed by a long minority, and that worst of all necessities in a country ruled by a despotic Government, a regency. He leaves a son about eight years old, who, we presume, will be his successor.

FRENCH THREATS.—M. Anselme Petetin—a gentleman who, it is understood, has promise of a prefecture in Savoy—signs an article in the *Opinion Nationale* which, in spite of oratorical precautions and an affected moderation, is in substance a defiance to Europe, and an ostentatious declaration that the French Government would like nothing so much as a general war to revenge Waterloo and Leipzig, and to rally disaffected subjects at home to the Emperor's dynasty. After speaking of the "bitter tears" which, according to him, France constantly sheds for the humiliation suffered at the period stereotyped by the two battles referred to, and regretting that the Republic of 1848 did not stretch out its hand to take not only Savoy, but Belgium and the Prussian provinces of the Rhine, this representative of the aggressive policy of Napoleon III. goes on to say:—"If in a period of profound peace you were to talk to people about the necessity of conquering the Rhine frontier they would laugh at you and thank you a fool. But if, whenever she makes a natural and legitimate movement, France feels that she is watched and threatened; if a popular conviction is formed that there exists against us a tacit concert, a perpetual conspiracy of malevolence and compression; if France is brought to discover that the antipathies against a certain Power which reigns over her is extended to a hatred against herself; if the affront of her defeat is to be eternally brought up against her and made the basis of public law; then, do not doubt it, France will one day return to her ambitious views, but it will be your fault. Then she will take in her heart a resolution to become strong enough to suffer no more insults, and to resume with entire tranquility her pacific labours, after having, by an overwhelming revenge, effaced that insult which she had endeavoured, but was not permitted, to forget."

DEATH OF A REVOLUTIONARY HERO.—One of the performers in the horrid tragedy of the Robespierre period has just met a dismal end, at the age of ninety-seven. A vagrant and beggar for the last forty years, Lazaretti, better known as Tablitz *Le Barbu*, sought and got shelter last week at the bedside of a peasant in the hamlet of St. Symphonien, near Lyons. Left alone, he was struck with epilepsy, and fell headlong into the brazier. He had been factotum to the miscreant Carrier in executing the famous *Noyades* at Nantes, when hundreds of Bretons were plunged, handcuffed, into the Loire in batches.

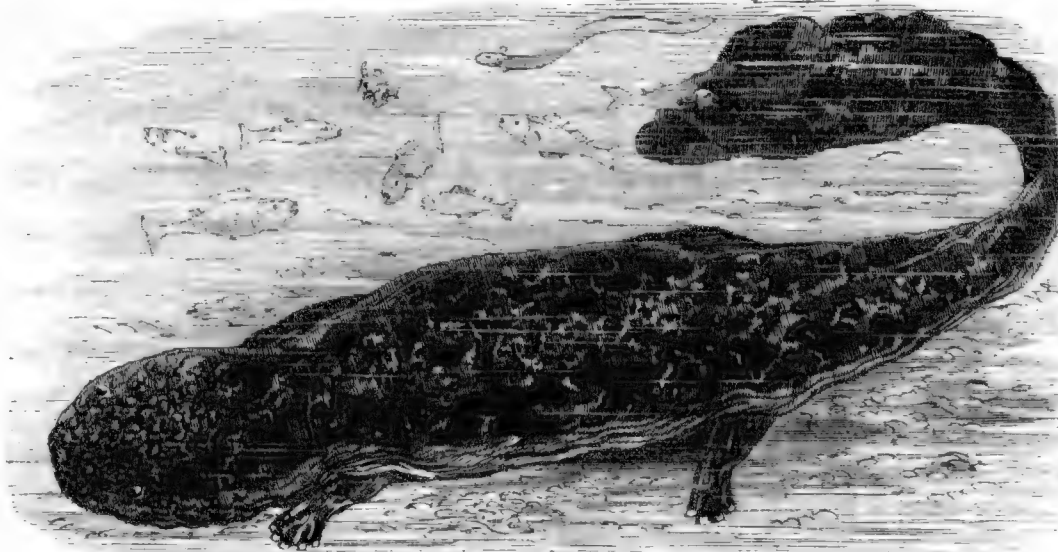
A BRAGG SUIT.—A singular suit has just been decided in the Champaign (Ohio) Court of Common Pleas. The action was brought under the Act to Provide against the Evils from the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors, passed May 1, 1854, the 7th section of which gives to a wife, child, parent, guardian, employer, or other person who shall be injured in person, property, or means of support by an intoxicated person, a right of action against the person who sold the liquor to the intoxicated person. The plaintiff in the case was Jane Brush, and the defendant Peter Lawson. Damages were laid at 20,000 dollars. The plaintiff set forth in her petition that she was on the 23rd of April last, and now is, the wife of one Reed Brush; that the said Reed Brush was, and for a long time hitherto had been, in the habit of getting intoxicated and drunk, which was well known to the defendant; that said defendant, well knowing the premises, did, on the 29th of April, 1859, in violation of law, sell and deliver to the said Brush one pint of whiskey, which the said Brush then and there drank, and with which the said Brush was made intoxicated and frenzied; that, in consequence of said sale, and by means of said drunkenness, and while in a state of intoxication, said Brush did furiously seize an axe, and, without provocation on the part of plaintiff, with force and violence cut off her left foot, whereby the plaintiff is now crippled. The defendant alleged that the maiming, &c., of the plaintiff was the result of a domestic quarrel brought about by her unchaste conduct, &c. The Court ruled that the immoral character of any one cannot reduce the rights guaranteed by law to him. The law makes Reed Brush the instrument of Peter Lawson, and the defendant cannot claim anything more in this case than if he had in *proprio personâ* thrown the axe. The jury, after a consultation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff, assessing her damages at 5000 dollars.

A NEW OPERA, entitled "Corrado Console di Milano," by the Maestro Gioeli, was produced at La Scala at Milan on the 10th inst., with complete success. The close of the second act is spoken of as being especially imaginative and artistic.

THE FASCINATING PICCOLONINI.—Mlle. Piccolonini brought a fortnight's engagement at Dublin to a close on Saturday evening by appearing for her own benefit in the opera of "Martha." She had for some days prior been labouring under a severe cold, and when the curtain rose she came forward and said:—"Kind friends!—This may be the last time that I will ever appear before you. I am very ill, indeed; but I have tried to come here to see you again. I can only sing very badly. You have been always very good to me; will you pardon my faults to-night? I shall do my best."

THE GIGANTIC SALAMANDER OF JAPAN.

THE Zoological Society have added a great "attraction" to their gardens in a fine specimen of the gigantic salamander of Japan. This singular creature bears a resemblance to a monster water-newt. It inhabits the lakes of the basaltic mountains of Japan, where it was discovered by the Dutch naturalist, Dr. von Siebold. It is characterised as being the nearest living analogue of the fossil man, or *homo diluvii testis* of Schenkeri. The specimen received by the Zoological Society is at present about three feet in length, and is the first of the class which has been brought alive to this country: indeed, it is a somewhat rare animal in Japan. We may add that a second novelty has just arrived at the Zoological Society's Gardens. This consists of two living specimens of the celebrated bird of the White Nile, first made known to naturalists in 1851 through Mansfield Parkyns, and named by Mr. Gould *balaniceps* *rex*. The whale-head, as its name imports, is a large stork, provided with an enormous pelican-like bill, and further resembling the latter bird in its capacity for devouring fish. The *balaniceps* inhabits the reedy marshes on the banks of the White Nile, beyond the 4th degree of north latitude, where it was obtained by Mr. Petherick (her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Chartoum, at the junction of the White and Blue Niles), during his arduous explorations into those regions, of which he lately gave an account before the Royal Geographical Society.



JAPANESE SALAMANDER, RECENTLY ADDED TO THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S COLLECTION, IN REGENT'S-PARK.

EDINBURGH HIGHLAND RIFLE CORPS.

OUR Engraving of a group of Highland Volunteers is taken from an excellent photograph by Truefitt Brothers. The corps have, by their laudable zeal in attending drill and their persevering adherence to the practice of the somewhat monotonous manoeuvres following the preliminary goose-step, gained that which should be the aim of every rifleman—namely, a most soldierlike appearance; and we cannot be accused of unjust praise when we maintain that they are entitled to be considered one of the finest rifle corps in Edinburgh.

When we stand in the Queen's Park on a field-day, and gaze with an eye to the picturesque on the grand old hills that rise up in all their rugged beauty of outline in happy relief against the cold, clear sky—and mayhap that in the atmosphere of Scottish scenery we are calling to mind the history of the past, and thinking of the days when brave Wallace led those sturdy old Scots, burning with their wrongs, to fight hardily for victory—and lost in reverie, we start to hear the tramp of many feet and the shrill notes of the bagpipes which head this corps, whose dress is quiet but picturesque in the extreme. The jacket is of dark material, with black braiding, which crosses the breast; a plain crossbelt and cartridge-box, adorned alone by the emblem of Scotland—the philibeg; and Glengarry cap, each bearing a similar ornament.

We cannot help making some comparisons between this and our London Scottish corps. Picturesque as is the London Scottish, and manly as is their appearance, we miss the raw, high cheekbones, the sinewy leg, and the brown, hardy countenance of the native Scot; and, while we compliment the London on its general completeness and efficiency, we cannot but inform our readers that, to judge of the appearance of the Highland volunteers, he must go further north than within the circle to which the London Scottish is confined.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, HASTINGS, SUSSEX.

HASTINGS, each season becoming a more frequented watering-place, has increasing demands on its accommodation for religious worship. The inhabitants, therefore, raised a fund, which has resulted in the handsome edifice shown in our Engraving. Hastings once boasted a priory, although at present no ruins remain to mark the site; but we find some tangible proofs of the antiquity of its ecclesiastical edifices in the Churches of All Saints and St. Clements, the building of both of which churches was commenced in the fourteenth and completed in the fifteenth centuries. The church which we represent is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and, though Divine service has been celebrated therein for a period of nearly two years, the building is but now drawing to completion. The church stands at the corner of Robertson-street; and a drinking-fountain is being erected at the east corner of the church, for the design of which, as also the architecture of the church, the inhabitants of Hastings are indebted to Mr. S. S. Teulon, of Charing-cross, who has in this instance added another to his already long catalogue of handsome and elegant designs. Dr. Crosse is the Incumbent of Holy Trinity, which is capable of accommodating eight hundred persons, and has been erected at a cost of £2800.

TERRIBLE MORTALITY ON BOARD A TRANSPORT-SHIP.

THE clipper-ship *Great Tasmania* arrived at Liverpool, from Calcutta, on Thursday week, with detachments of the 3rd Bengal, 3rd Madras, and 5th Bengal Infantry, some of the men of the Bengal Artillery, and of the 1st,

2nd, and 3rd Light Cavalry; the total number of soldiers being 937, besides 20 officers. A frightful amount of mortality took place during the voyage, no fewer than sixty of the soldiers having died from scurvy and dysentery—diseases which were apparently induced by insufficient food and accommodation. Of the survivors, 300 men were suffering either from scurvy or dysentery on the arrival of the ship; and of this number about 140 were in such a state that, had the ship been delayed much longer, their death was inevitable. Many of them lay upon the deck; and others, fortunate enough to have been provided with hammocks, were still without any other covering than their wearing apparel. On the evening of the ship's arrival about 100 of the sufferers were taken to the workhouse in spring-carts. A message had been previously sent to Mr. Carr, the governor of the workhouse, requesting him to send down something to cover the invalids. Sixty rugs were returned, but they were insufficient, and the consequence was that about forty men were laid in the carts half nude. One man died on the way. He had on a pair of drawers and a flannel singlet, both saturated with wet. So, it is said, he had lain for weeks exposed to the weather; and so he died. His appearance is described as horrible, "like that of a man who had been starved to death." Three more deaths occurred before the following night.

It appears that these soldiers are a portion of those who, refusing to be transferred from the service of the East India Company to that of her Majesty without receiving the usual bounty given to recruits, were discharged and ordered to be sent home. The men say that under the circumstances but little consideration was given to their comfort. A contract was entered into to bring them home at £7

soon numbered 300, all requiring attention from the hands of one surgeon and an assistant. Sickness was much increased by the want of proper covering. Four out of every ten men had to lie upon bare boards, and were glad to get even a coat to cover themselves.

From the surgeon's report it appears that great exertions were made to prevent the spread of disease, but these efforts were only partially successful. In December the men began to die fast from dysentery, and for two months before the arrival of the ship scarcely a day passed without one poor fellow or more being launched into the sea. Scurvy began to show itself at the end of February, and spread fast, causing many deaths. This dreadful state of things became daily worse, until the vessel arrived in the Mersey.

An inquiry was immediately opened before the Liverpool borough Coroner. Before the inquiry was commenced, Mr. T. G. Baring, Under Secretary of State for India, said the Indian Council had directed their solicitors to watch the proceedings, and he (Mr. Baring) had requested the local Government emigration agent to have the *Tasmania's* provisions carefully examined. Every effort should be made to elucidate the truth.

Mr. Carr, governor of the Liverpool Workhouse, gave a description of the men when they were received into the workhouse. One man, named Beech, who died on his way to the workhouse, was so miserably clad that the clothes on his body only weighed one pound six ounces. The men generally appeared to be labouring under dysentery, scurvy, and general debility. The men were loud in their complaints of the treatment they had received on shipboard. They stated that they had had bad water, bad food, and very little clothes.

Lieutenant Henry Goschen, of the 3rd Bengal European Regiment, said that the *Great Tasmania* sailed from Calcutta on the 9th of November last. There were 985 men on board, together with 17 women and 21 children. The men were stationed at Cinchah before embarkation. While there they drank very much, and sold their clothes for the purpose of getting liquor. On going on board the men were generally sickly, and about a fortnight after sailing a committee was held, and one cask of provisions (beef) was condemned as being unfit for human food. On several occasions after, both the beef and beer were condemned as being unfit for use; the beer was "short" and unwholesome, and had to be thrown overboard, and the beef was generally bad. On the 29th of December the biscuit was also condemned—36,000lb. being declared bad, and thrown overboard. They put into St. Helena for a fresh supply of biscuits on the 22nd of January. When the ship arrived there were 892 sick on board, many of the cases being from scurvy. During the voyage the total number of deaths was fifty-two, the causes of death being principally from scurvy and dysentery. The limejuice served out to the men was bad, and the preserved vegetables emitted an offensive odour, and were pulpy. The men had the option of either staying in India or coming home. They were principally the men who had been disbanded in consequence of the East India Company becoming extinct.

Patrick McCann, a discharged soldier, said the biscuit and beef were both bad; the former being "awful stuff." There was no bedding nor clothing supplied to the soldiers on going on board the *Great Tasmania*. All they received were a mattress, a hammock, and pillow.

George Bradford, of the 3rd Madras Regiment, said that the beef was stinking and the biscuit maggoty all the voyage. He was in a mess of ten men, and out of that number only two had hammocks, or any place to hang them.

Mr. Lawford, solicitor to the India Office, read a letter from the Governor-General of India, in which Lord Canning said that, in consequence of the number of troops leaving India for Europe and China, it was deemed necessary to supply the troops with pickled meats, rice, and dahl, instead of fresh provisions.

A number of documents were put in and read, showing that the



GROUP OF EDINBURGH HIGHLAND RIFLE CORPS.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY TRUEFITT BROTHERS.)

biscuits supplied by Messrs. Harton and Co., of Calcutta, were of such a bad kind that they had to be cracked with a hammer and steeped before being eaten. An immense quantity, however (32,000lb.), was so bad that it had to be thrown overboard.

Gunner John Worth said the ship left Calcutta on the 10th of November. He was in good health when he left port, and was appointed corporal of 92 mess two days after. He got a hammock, but no bedclothes whatever were supplied to the men. Many had no hammocks at all, and were obliged to sleep on the decks, mess-tables, and forms, or wherever they could. The beef was very bad, and, when boiled, "stunk so horribly" that it had to be thrown overboard. The men had nothing substituted instead of the beef. The lime juice was weak, and not fit to drink. The biscuits were hard, musty, mouldy, and maggoty until they reached St. Helena. The water was black, fetid, and sometimes rusty. The suet "stunk." He was promised to have a free passage to England, but was obliged to pull ropes, ballast the ship, pump water, scrub the sides of the vessel, and, in fact, act the part of a sailor during the greater part of the voyage. Although the men on board were disbanded troops, yet he, together with other men, was obliged to mount guard and do duty. He was obliged to take his hammock on deck in bad weather, and when it got wet he had no means of drying it, so that he was obliged to sleep in it as it was, wet or dry.

Patrick Flannagan, a private in the 3rd Bengal European Regiment, said he remembered the death of a person named George Dougherty. He (Dougherty) was never attended by the surgeon, and died on the mess-table without the doctor ever seeing him. Captain Pond and Lieutenant Goschen refused the men greatcoats in cold weather, and often threw the hammocks overboard.

Michael Casey, formerly a private in the 3rd Bengal European Regiment, corroborated the preceding witnesses in every particular.

Thomanas Fernandez, M.R.C.S., who served as medical officer to the troops, said there was a large amount of sickness amongst them, brought on by riotous living prior to embarkation. They had sold their blankets and clothing to buy liquor from the canteen, which was constantly open. The ship was overcrowded, and the defective ventilation brought on a low tone of health. The provisions were bad; the biscuits were old, musty, and full of "weevils," and 45,000lb. were condemned by a committee. In consequence of the badness of the biscuits they had to depend upon the peas; but these were so old that they would not soften, although soaked in water for twenty-four hours, and came out

of the coppers as hard as when they were put in. The overcrowding, the defective ventilation, and bad food, coupled with the previous dissipated habits of the men, brought on cholera and other diseases. The men had no rallying powers whatever, but grew weaker and weaker in spite of every attendance. Scurvy followed, and 500 of the troops were affected by that disease before the termination of the voyage. After scurvy there was a great disinclination for food, and he had great difficulty to prevent the men dying from starvation. Dr. Fernandez advised that the bread should be submitted to microscopic examination, as he believed it was nearly all rice. The worst biscuits were in the tanks, which were so much fermented that if a person placed his hand in it he would be scalded.

Two or three of the jury who had visited the ship here produced some specimens of the biscuit. It was nearly as hard as a brick, had a musty, offensive smell, and was riddled with weevils or other vermin. These were stated by the witness to be favourable specimens. A sample of the insects, wrapped in a piece of paper, was also handed round the court.

Dr. Fernandez then explained that, with regard to the man Dogherty, who died on the voyage, no blanket could be supplied him, as none were furnished by the Government authorities at Calcutta for hospital purposes. On the whole, the main cause of death was the extremely intemperate habits of the men and the want of any preparation for the voyage on the part of the men themselves. The man Beach, who died on the way to the workhouse, sold all his clothes, and it was impossible for the Government to provide for such a state of things. The troops opposed themselves to all authority, and the Calcutta people wanted to get rid of them at any price.

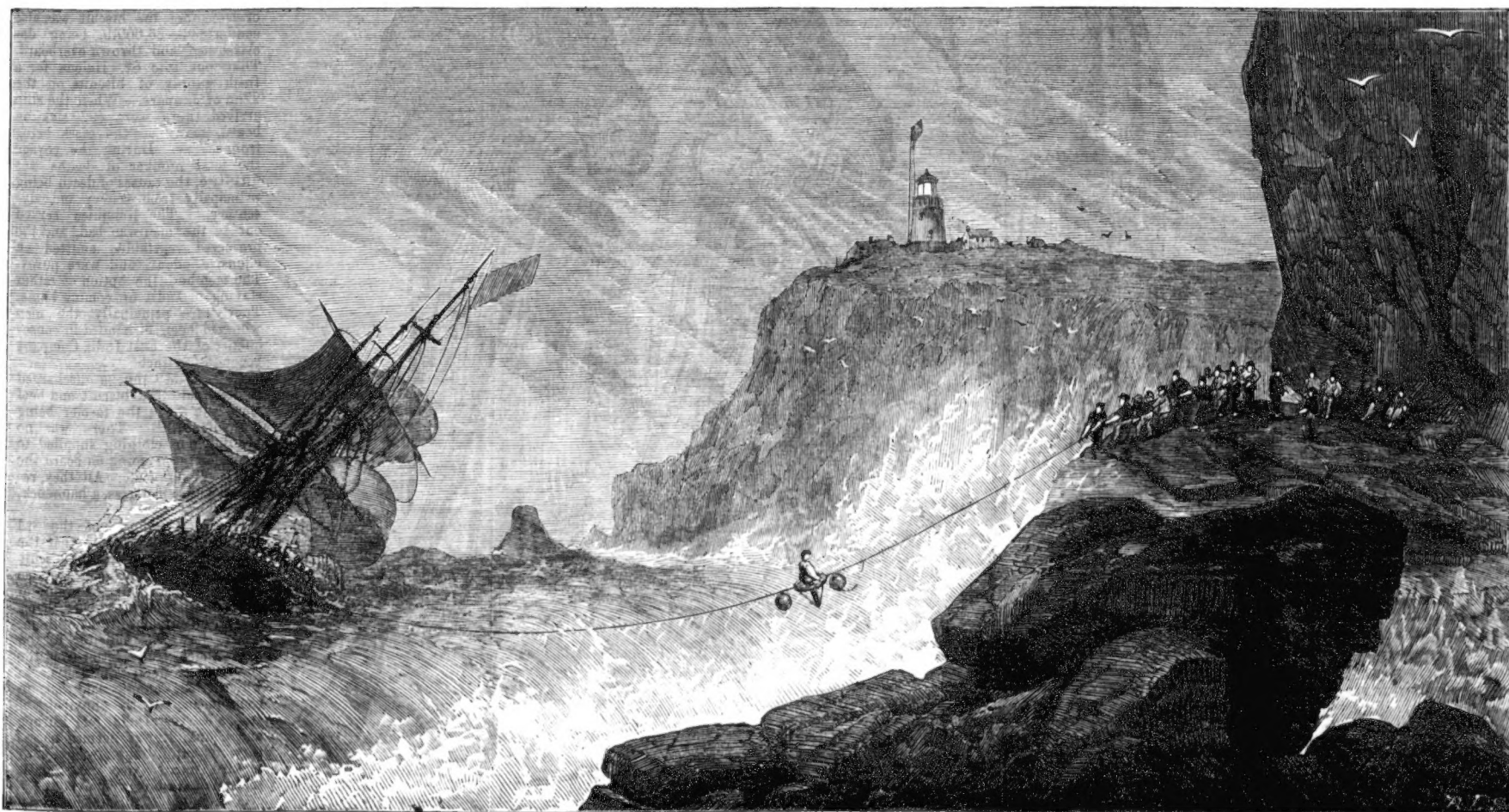
Dr. Gee, of the Liverpool workhouse, said that the troops at present in the workhouse hospital were suffering from illness contracted after they went on board the ship at Calcutta. Ten per cent of the men were ill when they left India. Had proper food been supplied to the troops the cases would not have been so bad as they were at present. Bad food, bad accommodation, and deficient ventilation, were the principal causes of disease and death.

Lieutenant Prior, the Government emigration officer at Liverpool, said he had made an examination of the provisions on board the ship *Great Tasmania*. He found that the bread, flour, beef, sugar, and rice were bad; but the pork, tea, limejuice, and pickles were unobjectionable. All the beef was bad, and smelled offensively—something like salted hides. The beef must have been pickled for about three or four years.

Mr. Brown, provision-merchant, said he had examined the beef, and



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, HASTINGS.—(MR. S. S. TEULON, ARCHITECT.)



PROPOSED METHOD OF RESCUING A SHIPWRECKED CREW.

found that it was about four years old. The pork was good. The bread was bad, and never fit for use for sea stores for troops. It was baked in Calcutta. The sugar was wretched. The pickles and limejuice were as good as could be expected on a return voyage from India. They had originally been sent out from England to Calcutta. Troops, he said, were worse fed than ordinary passengers on board ship. Provisions which would not do for passengers were thought good enough for soldiers by the Government inspectors.

W. Inman, M.D., who had also examined some of the stores, said the beef and bread were very bad; the pork, tea, and rice were fair. The hospital stores were good, but were devoid of many invigorating medicines, such as quinine. The flour was bad, and was full of the excrement of insects, and abounded with animal life. The bread contained insects, like pigs' bristles, about one-eighth of an inch long; and there were other insects which had the appearance of small beetles.

Mr. C. Prytherch, resident surgeon to the Liverpool workhouse, said he had made a post-mortem examination of one of the deceased soldiers, named John Phillips. He died from scurvy and laceration of the bowels. The food such as served up on board the *Great Tasmania* would produce and precipitate the disease. He had examined five other dead soldiers, and none of them exhibited any signs of having been habitual drunkards.

Francis Ayrton, surgeon, said he had made a post-mortem examination of the body of one of the deceased soldiers. It was very much emaciated. Death was caused by bad food, which produced scurvy.

Captain Alexander Pond, of the 3rd Bengal European Regiment, said: He commanded the troops on the homeward voyage from Calcutta to Liverpool in the *Great Tasmania*. He brought 487 men of his own regiment down from Gwalior to Calcutta. The march lasted from the 22nd of August to the 21st of October, when they reached Chinsurah. They had a very severe march, as the rains were falling at the time, and the roads were bad. They crossed the Mulus, a small river, no less than three times, the men being up to their waists in water. When they arrived at Agra they had twenty men in hospital. The road from Agra to Allahabad was very good, but dysentery followed the troops all the way, and they lost ten men before they reached Chinsurah. They embarked at Calcutta on the 8th of November, the stores being previously put on board by the Government. When they were a few days at sea the beef and biscuit were found to be bad, and the biscuit continued so until they put into St. Helena, where they got a fresh supply. He could not get even one day's supply of fresh provisions at St. Helena, as the Governor said it would cause starvation on the island. Cabbages were 2s. 6d. a head. Previous to the arrival of the ship at St. Helena there was a great deal of mortality on board. During the voyage there were fatigue parties told off to look after the sick. Corporal punishment was never resorted to on the voyage; there was no occasion for it, as he never saw a better-conducted set of men on board ship. The men were not supplied with blankets on coming on board, and many of them came into the ship totally destitute of anything like warm clothing. There was no person appointed to see that the soldiers were properly clothed before going on board.

Captain Gardyne, of the ship *Great Tasmania*, was examined. He said the ship was chartered at Calcutta, on the 29th of August, for the conveyance of troops to the United Kingdom at £6 a head, including space, water, and fuel. There was sufficient water on board for the voyage. The water was the best that could be procured. He never saw better care taken of troops in his life than that bestowed upon the men on board the *Great Tasmania*.

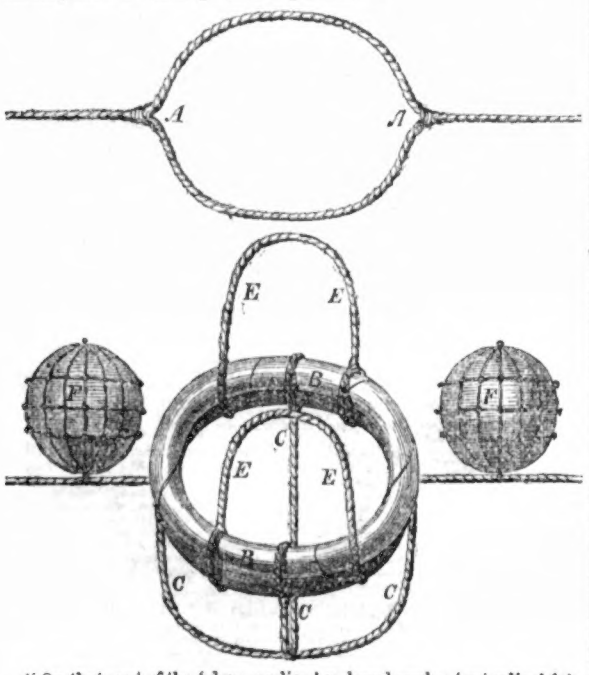
(The evidence was still proceeding when we went to press.)

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.

The following letter sufficiently explains a new plan for saving life from shipwreck, as our Engravings illustrate it:—

"On some parts of the coast, where there is no current, there is little difficulty in sending a line (say a 'deep-sea line,' which is usually 240 yards in length) to land from a wreck by attaching a 'nun-buoy' or something of the kind to it and letting it drift in. In places where this cannot be accomplished Manby's rockets (when the wreck has occurred near shore) have been instrumental in saving many lives by conveying a line from the shore to the wreck. But Allen's apparatus for conveying a line from the ship to the shore is preferable, inasmuch as that all vessels should possess in themselves, as far as possible, a means of getting a line to land. Had the *Royal Charter* this appliance on board more lives might have been saved from her; and there is no doubt, if the *Nimrod* had had it, under Providence all would have been rescued; and it is probable, if the *Luna*, *Louise*, and *Hungarian* had been provided with it, it might have been the means of rescuing some portion, at least, of the unfortunate crews and passengers of those ill-fated vessels recently lost.

"We will now suppose one end of the 'deep-sea line' on board a wrecked vessel, and that the other end has reached the shore, and is in the hands of humane people who are ready to render assistance to the castaway mariner. This with the line having been accomplished, a safe apparatus for conveying persons to shore can be easily constructed within a few minutes with the following articles, which are always available on board ship—viz., two common round life-buoys, two cork fenders, and a few short pieces of rope, thus:—



"On that part of the 'deep-sea line' on board work a 'cut-splice' (A), leaving just sufficient room between the double parts of the rope to admit a man's body. Get two round 'life-buoys,' and lash one over the other (B), with the 'cut-splice' open between them. Underneath the life-buoys place two rope 'stirrups' (C), crossing each other at right angles at (D), three feet long. On the upper part place two similar pieces of rope, not too crossing, which I shall designate 'braces' (E). At both parts of the line, and close to the life-buoys, fasten two cork fenders (F), and the apparatus will be complete for conveying persons from a wrecked vessel to land.

"All small lines, such as studding-sail gear, &c., should be got at hand and coiled down clear and ready for bending on to the

'deep-sea line,' if wanted, for double the length of line will be required that the distance of the ship is from the land.

"The person about to effect a landing by this conveyance is to place the life-buoys round the waist, and sit on the 'stirrups' (C), and placing the braces' (E), crossing each other over the shoulders. In this way he or she will be quite secure from falling out from the life-buoys when in the water.

"When he is quite ready he should stand on the rail or some conspicuous part of the wreck, in order that the people on shore may know when to 'stand by' to haul the line as soon as they see him jump overboard. At night a musket might be fired as a signal for hauling the line, which would answer either way. As he is hauled towards the beach, that part of the line on board will, of course, be 'veered away' until the adventurer gets to land, when the apparatus is to be hauled back to the ship for another voyager, and so repeated until all are landed.

"A SAILOR WHO KNOWS THE ROPES."

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

Mr. E. T. Smith has issued his programme for the season. It contains a list of excellent names—those of Titiens, Alboni, Borghi-Mamo (whom we have long wished to hear in England), and Marie Cabel (who is doubtless engaged as a "set off" to Miolan-Carvalho, the "light soprano" of the Royal Italian Opera). We must observe that Madame Borghi-Mamo made her first appearance in Paris, at the Italian Theatre, in a mezzo-soprano part—that of *Lucia*, in the "Trovatore"—and that she seemed to us on that occasion to have naturally a mezzo-soprano voice inclining to the contralto. But money will do anything, and the offer of a lucrative engagement for principal parts at the Académie Impériale had the effect of changing Madame Borghi-Mamo's voice into a mezzo-soprano inclining to the soprano. Vocally speaking, then, she is precisely in the same position as Mdlle. Alboni, whom she further resembles in the rich beauty of her voice and the perfection of her style. The tenors at Her Majesty's Theatre are Giuglini and Mongini. In baritones and basses the new management is not so rich, unless a certain Ronconi, whose Christian name we forget, be really worthy of his illustrious namesake. Next week, when Mr. Gye's programme will have been issued, we shall have something to say concerning the rival operas, considered as such.

The second concert for the season of the New Philharmonic series, directed by Dr. Wylde, took place on Monday at St. James's Hall. The programme had, as usual, been very judiciously arranged, and included a variety of compositions in the most different styles, and, in nearly every instance, of the highest merit. The entertainment commenced with Mendelssohn's "Fingal's Cave," the second of the three overtures dedicated to the Crown Prince of Prussia—No. 1 being "The Midsummer Night's Dream," and No. 3, "The Calm and Prosperous Voyage." Dr. Wylde, who enriches his programmes with critical remarks on the music of the evening, considers overture No. 2 the choicest, if not the most popular, of the set. He explains that it is "not descriptive of place and scene," but that it "portrays the feelings and emotions of the composer, caused by a visit to the wondrous Cave of Fingal." The latter it probably does; the former it, of course, could not do. The best thing to say of it is simply that it is very beautiful music, and that it was executed very satisfactorily on Monday night by Dr. Wylde's orchestra. The band, also, distinguished itself greatly by its performance of the admirable "Pastoral Symphony," the best known and most generally appreciated of all the symphonies of Beethoven. Every one knows that this marvellous work is, indeed, full of the pastoral character, though it is questionable whether the second movement would suggest a "rivulet" to persons not previously enlightened on that point, and impossible that the first can convey to any one impressions analogous to those which would be produced by the view of a fine landscape. The trio of birds at the end of the second movement recalls natural sounds, it is true, and, as usual, it delighted the audience, who may, however, be reminded that the direct imitation of the cry of the cuckoo and of the song of the nightingale is a kind of music in which a great composer like Beethoven could only have indulged by way of pleasantry; nor, it may be observed, can the song of the nightingale be faithfully reproduced on any instrument. "The Village Fête," "The Storm," and "The Shepherd's Song," produced their due effect. Those movements, independently of their value in a purely musical point of view, have the advantage, as many must consider it, of telling their story in an intelligible manner. Dance-music naturally makes us think of dancing, which is a most important element in a village fête. Then most amateurs of the present day are able to recognise a musical description of a storm, and, if properly warned, are sure not to mistake it for the expression of rage or of any agitation but that of the elements. However, let it be admitted that "description" in music is mere conventionalism, and the "Pastoral Symphony" is none the less a magnificent production.

The second overture on Monday was that of "Masaniello." It was played with remarkable spirit and warmly applauded.

The solo instrumentalists were Herr Becker, the violinist, who executed with much brilliancy a fantasia on a Hungarian melody; and Miss Arabella Goddard, who took the pianoforte part in Mozart's concerto in E flat, and performed it with the charming expression and the purity of style by which her playing is always characterised.

Miss Augusta Thomson, in the air "Pensa alla patria," from the "Italiana," proved herself a thorough mistress of the florid style of vocalisation; and afterwards gave, with much dramatic effect, Meyerbeer's celebrated "Robert toi que j'aime." Mdlle. Sainton-Dolby, who on her appearance was immensely applauded, sang, with excellent expression, Stradella's "O del mio," and Mendelssohn's exquisite little song "The First Violet."

The next New Philharmonic concert will take place on April 16.

PRINCE ALFRED.—The *United Service Gazette* says that Prince Alfred is being brought up in the service precisely the same as if he were the son of a private gentleman. "He messes with the midshipmen, keeps his regular watch, dines occasionally in the ward-room, and takes his turn to dine with the Captain. He is treated by his messmates as, in all respects, one of themselves; is called to order by the caterer, and runs the same risk of being made the subject of a practical joke as any other young gentleman—himself, however, being generally pretty forward in the business of playful mischief. Upon one question—that of smoking—the young Prince is sternly denied the privilege indulged in by other officers. That growing weakness of the age, most mischievous in its consequences, particularly when carried to excess, is prohibited as far as Prince Alfred is concerned; and upon one occasion, we believe, his Royal Highness had his leave stopped for a fortnight for being detected in the act of 'blowing a cloud.'"

NEW ARTIFICIAL GAS FOR LIGHTING.—The monopoly of the gas companies is likely to meet with a corrective agent in superheated steam, which, being charged with coal tar, produces with marvellous rapidity, and at an excessively low price, any quantity of very rich gas for lighting. Careful analysis has shown it to be composed of free oxygen, 1.5; oxide of carbon, 3; carbonic acid, 5.8; bi-carburetted hydrogen, 17.8; and proto-carburetted hydrogen, 71.9. Compared with ordinary coal gas, this artificial gas is found to contain nearly one-half less oxide of carbon, and twice as much bi-carburetted hydrogen; its intrinsic value is therefore twice as great. Besides, its composition proves that it is a very permanent mixture or combination, which remains intact for any distance it may be conducted. After being kept for five months in gasometers it exhibited no change and left no deposit. A generator capable of furnishing in four hours the gas necessary to light a city of 30,000 souls, and to supply 3000 burners, is now in course of construction, so that its practical utility will soon be fairly tested. The entire absence of sulphuretted hydrogen in this gas is not the least of its recommendations to careful trial.—*Photographic News*.

NEWSTEAD ABBEY is to be disposed of, under the hammer, at the Auction Mart, London, on the 13th of June.

POOR RATES.—The amount of poor rates and receipts in aid in England and Wales during the last three years was as follows:—1857, £5,898,756; 1858, £5,878,542; 1859, £5,538,689. This, with the addition of the rates collected under the name of poor rates, but for quite other purposes, and which amounted in these three years respectively to £2,440,454, £2,571,116, and £2,590,567, makes a levy per head of the population of 8s. 5½d., 8s. 5½d., and 8s. 5½d. The relief to the poor per head was, during the three years, as follows:—6s. 1½d., 6s. 0½d., and 5s. 8d.

DEATH OF M. JULLIEN.

THE mental aberration of M. Jullien did not last very long, nor was he destined to survive more than a few hours the partial restoration of his faculties. On Tuesday week he became insensible, and next day he expired.

M. Jullien's career, though one of seemingly unchequered success since he first superintended the famous concerts, was by no means one of unchequered prosperity. He was alternately rising and falling, not in popularity, but in ways and means. When the Promenade Concerts (at one time a joint concern among the members of the orchestra) failed, M. Jullien boldly assumed the undivided responsibilities. What vogue he shortly obtained is remembered even now, although nearly twenty years have elapsed since he first waved his conductor's stick at Drury-lane and Covent-garden Theatres. As the entertainment he had invented became more and more the fashion M. Jullien became more and more prodigal of numbers and "effects." No one responded to public favour with heartier reciprocity or with a keener ambition to merit support. Thus his concerts annually gained ground, until, encouraged by his successes and the increasing confidence attached to his undertakings, he resolved to found a national English opera, and leased Drury-lane Theatre for a series of years. At the first night's performance—December 6, 1847—Donizetti's "Lucia" was given, and Mr. Sims Reeves first appeared. The sort of establishment M. Jullien contemplated was superior to anything recognised before in the shape of an English opera, and has not been equalled by any subsequent attempt. All departments were managed on the most lavish scale—orchestra, chorus, principal singers, officers before and behind the curtain, tying one with another in efficiency and also in expensiveness. The result might have been anticipated. The speculation ended in failure, and M. Jullien became a bankrupt.

The next winter (1848) saw him once again, with undiminished energies, at the head of his concerts in Drury-lane Theatre, which had now passed from his hands into those of Mr. Gye. The public flocked to him, as usual; and even in 1849-50, when a formidable opposition was instituted by a party of amateurs at her Majesty's Theatre, and the greater number of his most famous instrumentalists were lured away from him, M. Jullien formed a new band which soon showed itself in all respects equal to the other. In short, he vanquished his opponents in a season. Before the autumn of 1850 M. Jullien went to the United States with some of the principal members of his orchestra, and wound up his exploits in Transatlantic regions, after visiting every town and city of importance, by that gigantic meeting, in conjunction with the speculative Mr. Barnum, which drew 40,000 persons to the New York Crystal Palace. In 1851 M. Jullien was again in London, and the comparative dreariness of the preceding year, when some desolate entertainments at St. Martin's Hall had done more than could have been effected by the absence of any to remind the public of his value, was compensated by performances as brilliant as any he had ever directed. Thus he continued until he found himself involved in another unfortunate enterprise—the new Music Hall in the Surrey Gardens. Mr. Gye's lease of Drury-lane Theatre having expired, M. Jullien's concerts were transferred to the late Royal Italian Opera, the destruction of which by fire entailed a loss from the results of which he never actually recovered—viz., the whole of his music, engraved and in manuscript, his own compositions, and those which had formed the staple commodity of his "Classical Nights." Thus the accumulation of many years was swept away in one unlucky night. Compelled to seek another home, or to suspend his public avocations until a new Covent Garden should rise from the ashes of the old, M. Jullien chose the former course, and entered into an arrangement with Mr. Lumley to give concerts at Her Majesty's Theatre in 1857 and 1858. The year following, Her Majesty's Theatre being inaccessible, M. Jullien repaired to the Lyceum, where he was by no means in his element, want of space being a disadvantage against which it was not in his nature to contend. Beset with difficulties, he retired to Paris, passed four months in Clichy, appealed—being still a Frenchman to the Bankruptcy Court, received his certificate, laid plans for a new series of concerts in various parts of the Continent, to begin with the French capital, and had made considerable progress, when the excitement consequent on this renewal of physical and mental activity brought on the malady which terminated in his death at the age of fifty.

SUICIDE GENERALS.—The Vienna journals announce the suicide in that city of two superior officers of the Austrian army, General de Rechlin Meldegg and Lieutenant-Colonel Marx. They say, however, that these melancholy events were not caused by the deceased having been mixed up in the Eynatten affair. Both blew out their brains.

THE LONDON BANKERS have resolved to close on Saturdays at three o'clock instead of four. The concurrence of the Bank of England has yet to be obtained, but it is not expected that any objection will be raised by that establishment. The new system will come into operation on Saturday, the 19th of May.

ENGLISH SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE POPE.—The *Weekly Register* announces the receipt of a donation of £1000 from the Dowager Duchess of Leeds in aid of the Pope. The same paper announces the inauguration of a general collection in England, and states that a pastoral from Cardinal Wiseman is about to be issued in aid of the movement.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ENGLAND AND INDIA.—The first private telegram between India and England, via the Red Sea route, was received at Lloyd's on Saturday, dated Calcutta, March 10, thus reducing the communication between the chief Presidency of India and the capital of England to a period of six days. When the entire line of telegraph wire has been laid the period of communication will be reduced to two days. The telegram referred to was as follows:—"Calcutta, March 10.—Ship *Red Gauntlet*, bound to London, burnt and scuttled. Some cargo will be saved."

MURDER OF THE CAPTAIN OF H.M.S. *Viceroy*.—Captain Lionel Lambert, of her Majesty's steamer *Viceroy*, was barbarously murdered on the 9th of February at Lima. The unfortunate gentleman left his hotel at three o'clock in the afternoon to take a bath. His friends were waiting for him to dine, but he never returned. His body was afterwards found, and a despatch addressed to Captain Miller was still on his person, but his ring and watch were stolen. The back of his head was fractured, and his forehead fearfully cut. His wrists bore signs of a fearful struggle with his murderer.

THE ARMSTRONG AND WHITWORTH CONTROVERSY.—Sir William Armstrong and Mr. Whitworth, we are told, met at the meeting of the Institute of Civil Engineers last week, when Sir William explained the properties of his gun very fully, and it is said, offered a challenge to Mr. Whitworth "to come to Shoeburyness, and he would give him satisfaction." We understand that Mr. Whitworth will only accept the challenge provisionally. He is disposed to think that the Select Committee, who would be the official arbiters, are rather too much predisposed in favour of Sir William Armstrong; and, as the public are not allowed to be present at experiments at Shoeburyness, there is a difficulty about admitting Mr. Whitworth's friends as he desires. It is certain, however, that a full and fair trial must be given to these weapons.

THE PAPER TRADE AND THE RAG QUESTION.—A meeting of paper-manufacturers was held on Wednesday at the King's Arms, New Palace-yard, to consider what course to pursue with regard to the question of the exportation of rags from France. In the circular calling the meeting it is stated as a fact come to the knowledge of the committee of the paper trade that the French Government intend to impose a duty of certainly not less than £8, but probably £10, a ton on the export of rags. Mr. Johnson occupied the chair. On the motion of Mr. T. Wrigley, seconded by Mr. Peatrich, it was resolved that, with the export duty on French rags, it would be unjust and ruinous to the paper manufacture of this country not to retain an import duty on paper of at least 1d. per pound. The resolution was not, however, adopted unanimously, for Mr. Baldwin, of Birmingham, opposed it, reminding the meeting how often the paper-makers, in interviews on various occasions with Ministers of the day, had agreed not to insist upon the retention of any import duty at all if the excise duty was abolished; and recalling the fact that Mr. Wrigley himself, the mover of the resolution, had at a recent meeting expressly adhered to that view. Mr. Baldwin also warned those present that success in this case was hopeless, and that, in attempting to obtain anything like protection for themselves, the paper-makers would place themselves in an invidious position before the public. The resolution, however, was adopted, as was also a memorial to the Government embodying it. It was suggested by Mr. Wrigley that the deputation to present this memorial do wait with it upon Lord Palmerston, and not on Mr. Gladstone; but this suggestion was overruled, it being understood that the committee would decide upon that point.

LAW AND CRIME

The law relating to bankruptcy and insolvency, which has so long been one of the greatest blot upon our legislative system, stands at last in a fair way of being radically reformed. The revelations made by the Attorney-General, Sir R. Bethell, in the House of Commons last week must have been almost astounding to those happily unacquainted with the extortion, injustice, and insufficiency of the present system. Sir Richard, speaking officially, declared that there was no country in Europe which had laws so bad as those which we have upon bankruptcy and insolvency. "Nothing ought to be more simple than the law of bankruptcy," because bankruptcy was nothing more than taking all a bankrupt's property for the purpose of distribution among his creditors. The honourable and learned gentleman showed that the average cost of such distribution was thirty-three per cent upon the amount of the estate. This is no doubt true, so far; but even worse remains untold—namely, that even this high tariff is not levied as percentage, but in the way of charges, whereby in the case of small and even moderate estates the whole is frequently absorbed in expenses, and not a single fraction divided among the creditors at all. But the bankruptcy law, bad as it is, applies only to traders. A non-trader, if owing thousands of pounds, can only be forced to give up his property by the clumsy, and not unfrequently altogether inefficient, process of consigning him to prison, where, if he so choose, he may live merrily so long as he retain the means with which he ought to satisfy his creditors. Again, a discharged insolvent remains still liable, as to his future property, for the debts from the immediate pressure of which he has been released. The bankrupt, once discharged, is free for ever from past liabilities. To meet these and other equally flagrant defects it is proposed to establish one uniform law of bankruptcy for traders and non-traders—to diminish the expenses of bankruptcy by dismissal of the host of officials who now apparently hold their places for no other object than that of being paid enormous fees out of the assets of insolvent estates—to allow every insolvent debtor to make himself bankrupt, whether he possesses a certain amount of property or not—and to enact that the property of a debtor, after his imprisonment for fourteen days, should pass to his creditors by the operation of bankruptcy, whether with his concurrence or not. All the present technicalities constituting "acts of bankruptcy" are to be superseded by plain and simple rules. It was shown that the five Commissioners at present constituting the Judges in bankruptcy were each engaged only three days each week, while their judicial duties engaged them only three hours during the same time. For these three hours weekly, and the balance of attendance, during which the learned Commissioners, sitting above creditors squabbling about the choice of assignees and similar matters, these five fortunate gentlemen received each £2000 a year. It is proposed to place in the stead of the Commissioners a single Judge, who, it is expected, will be able to discharge all the necessary duties. Curious statistics were produced as to the judicial labours of the five Commissioners. To them is awarded the power of giving assised certificates, the first class testifying to the bankruptcy having arisen from unavoidable causes, and the third affixing something like a stigma of dishonesty. While Mr. Commissioner Evans granted only one first-class certificate in twenty-eight cases, his brethren increased the average, until Mr. Commissioner Fane granted one in less than four. The messengers of the Court were exposed as mere sinecurists, receiving from twelve to seventeen hundred pounds a year each, while the work which they were supposed to perform was actually carried out by "men in possession," receiving 3s. 6d. each per day. The new reform, while abolishing the office of the messengers, does not appear to provide for them any compensation for the loss of their emoluments. The proposed changes seem to have met with a degree of public approval almost unprecedented.

A tailor, named Henry Simpson, of Richmond-street, Leicester-square, was charged with appropriating a £10 note, alleged to have been found by him in the street. The owner, a lady, happened to drop the note from her purse, which fell open as she was carrying it in her hand in Woburn-place. Discovering her loss shortly afterwards she retraced her steps and met two men, one of whom she believed to be Simpson, the tailor. They asked her whether she had lost anything, and, being informed of the fact, went away, "sluffing about on the pavement." A few days after the note was clearly traced to Simpson, on whom the lady called to inquire respecting it. He at first did not appear to recognise her, but afterwards turned very pale. In reply to questions by her husband he declared that he had received the note from "a man named Smith, who looked like a sailor." Being pressed with further inquiries he began to swear and return impertinent answers. The lady then applied to Mr. Bingham, the magistrate, who, having elicited the above facts in evidence, stated the law of finding to be that if a finder appropriate goods of which there may be reasonable belief that the owner may be found it is larceny. In this case, as the prosecutrix could not swear positively to the defendant as having been the man seen by her upon the occasion of her losing the note, he was discharged.

Two thieves were detected in the employment of a highly-ingenuous contrivance for robbing public-houses. One of them carried an implement resembling a common walkingstick, but which was, in fact, an adaptation of the instrument known as the "lazy-tongue," being capable of elongation like a telescope, and being furnished at one end with a wire clip. By this means they managed, when opportunity was afforded them by the momentary absence of the landlord and his servants from the bar, to lay hold of the receptacle—usually a wineglass—in which the gold taken during the day happened to be temporarily placed. Being caught at this scheme, the elaborate ingenuity of the machine, and their clever management of it, resulted in eighteen months' hard labour to the one, and to the other, who had been previously convicted, in seven years' penal servitude.

holder for, the amount of the stake. The trial took place a few days since, when, after the Judge had stated his regret that the time of a respectable jury should be occupied upon such a transaction, a verdict was given subject to a future decision as to the ordinary custom in such cases. The chief point of interest in the matter appears to be that prisoners suffering the restrictions of a gaol live less hardly and thrive better than gladiators under the ordinary course of training.

POLICE.

EXTENSIVE SEIZURE OF COUNTERFEIT COIN.—Charles Thomas, a dirty-looking fellow, about forty years of age, described on the charge-sheet as of no occupation, was charged with having in his possession various crown pieces and other coins, well knowing them to be counterfeit, and with intent to circulate the same. From the evidence of Mr. Brennan, formerly inspector of the G division, it appeared that, in consequence of information received from the authorities of the Mint, he had for some time watched the prisoner. The prisoner was watched from his house to a neighbouring public-house frequented by well-known smashers, and when he had been there some time he went to his residence. On his returning to the public-house Mr. Brennan said, "Well, Frank, I have received information that you are dealing in counterfeit coin." He said, "I have got nothing of the sort by me." The prisoner was then seized and pushed into a public-house, and upon Mr. Brennan searching him he found on the prisoner one crown piece, nine halfpennies, three florins, and four shillings, all counterfeit, and wrapped in separate pieces of paper to prevent them from rubbing. The prisoner then said that the pieces were given to him to carry, and he was now very sorry that he had had anything to do with the job. The prisoner was then asked where he resided, and replied that he had no fixed residence. The prisoner was then told that one could soon be found for him, and, upon taking him to 24, Peartree-street, St. Luke's, a room was pointed out by a lodger as belonging to the prisoner. The room was searched in the presence of the prisoner, and a large quantity of counterfeit coin, done up in small parcels, was found, as well as a number of articles used in the manufacture of spurious coin. The woman who lives with the prisoner formerly cohabited with a desperate thief, who is now undergoing a sentence of transportation.

The prisoner said he should reserve his defence, but it was a very bad job.

Mr. Tyrwhitt remanded the prisoner for the attendance of the Mint solicitor, and refused to accept bail.

A DESPERATE CHARACTER.—Henry Dance, a determined-looking fellow, was brought before Mr. Hammill on the following charge:—

It appeared that on the previous day the prisoner was charged with creating a disturbance in front of the Marylebone Workhouse; and, upon his promising not to offend again, he was liberated. On the same night he climbed over a high wall of the establishment and made his way into the schoolyard, where he was found secreted behind a door. He had up his coat sleeve a large poker, the handle of which he was grasping firmly; and on his being asked what he intended to do with it he made no answer. Some keys were taken from him, and it was believed that his object was personal violence and robbery. Mr. Tubbs, relieving officer, said that the prisoner, who was for some time a pauper in the house, was one of the greatest scoundrels imaginable. He had repeatedly threatened the life of him (Mr. Tubbs) and been punished for it; he had also sworn that he would be hanged at Newgate for some one at the workhouse; and, nine or ten months ago, it required the united exertions of several men to wrest from him a knife which he was flourishing about to the terror of all who were near him.

He was remanded till Saturday next.

CONVICTION OF A FASHIONABLE SHOPLIFTER.—Ann Hartly, a fashionably-dressed young woman, was indicted for stealing ten yards of ribbon, the property of Elizabeth Harriet Cooper.

The prosecutrix keeps a linendraper's shop at Tulse-hill, and on the evening of the 6th inst. the prisoner came in, and asked to look at some ribbons. A quantity were shown her, and after pulling them about she said she had not sufficient money about her, and would call again. She left the shop, and as soon as she was gone the prosecutrix missed the piece of ribbon. When she got out of the shop she spoke to a man, who decamped as soon as the prosecutrix came after her to give her in charge.

The jury found her guilty, and, two former convictions being proved against her, the Chairman sentenced her to four years' penal servitude.

Mr. Tison remarked that it was quite time such a character was placed in the hands of Government for punishment.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

CONTINENTAL politics have continued to exercise considerable influence upon the market for all Home Stocks. Although no important change has taken place in the quotations, the dealings in the Stock Exchange have been limited, and, consequently, the absorption of Consols has not increased. We may observe, however, that the supply continues only moderate. Consols have been done at 94½; for Account, 94½; and Exchequer Bills, 17s. to 20s. prem.

A new Brazilian loan of £11,300,000 has been announced, and transactions have taken place in it at 1 to 1 prem. The issue is £10,000,000, and the whole amount will be required by the 1st of August.

There has been a moderate arrival of bullion, but the whole of the gold received has been taken by exporting houses. The next mail steamer for India will carry out about £250,000 in silver.

Most Indian Securities have been in steady request, at full quotations. The Five per Cent. have sold at 94½; the Five and a Half per Cent., 104½ to 105½; India Bonds have ranged 2s. prem.

Har silver has sold at 62½; and Mexican dollars are being 62½d. per ounce.

Money has been in somewhat active request, at full rates of discount. Short first class bills have been done at 3½ to 4; three months at 4, four months at 4½; and six months at 4, to 4½ per cent.

Foreign Stocks have been somewhat inactive. Prices, however, have been maintained. Turkish Bonds have sold at 84½; Ditto, New 6½; Brazilian Four and a Half per Cent., 94½; Mexican Three per Cent., 108; Portuguese Three per Cent., 44½; Russian Five per Cent., 108; Ditto, Three per Cent., 45; Spanish, Deferred, 34½; Turkish Four per Cent., 101½; Turkish Four and a Half per Cent., 98½; Luck Four per Cent., 24½; and the India Bonds, 84½. There have been rather more business doing in the Railway share Market, and prices have ruled firm.

Miscellaneous Securities have ruled flat, but Joint-stock Bank Shares have commanded extreme rates.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—About average supplies of English wheat have been on offer this week coastwise and by land carriage. For all kinds there has been a steady demand, as in some instances the inquiry for foreign wheat has somewhat improved, and very full prices have been paid for it. Floating cargoes have commanded previous rates; but the inquiry for them has been by no means active. Extreme rates have continued to be paid for barley, especially for milling, but the supply continues only moderate. Oats have moved off slowly, on former terms. Oats have maintained their previous value. Both beans and peas have commanded very good prices. Country flour was held for rather more money.

ENGLISH CEREALS.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 39s. to 50s.; ditto, white, 38s. to 40s.; grinding barley, 25s. to 27s.; distilling, ditto, 27s. to 30s.; malted, 35s. to 45s.; rye, 24s. to 26s.; malt, 48s. to 72s.; feed oats, 20s. to 25s.; potato do., 25s. to 30s.; tick beans, 35s. to 38s.; grey peas, 32s. to 34s.; white do., 36s. to 41s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 4s. to 4½s.; country marks, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; ditto, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; ditto, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.

CATTLE.—Increased supplies of each kind of fat stock have been on offer this week. Almost generally the trade has ruled somewhat heavy, and prices have had a dropping tendency. Beef, from 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; lamb, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per 100 lb. to sink the calf.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—Since our last report, very large supplies of Scotch and country-killed meat have been on sale here, and the trade has ruled heavy, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 6d. to

4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 4s. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d. per 100 lb. by the carcase.

TEA.—Common sound congon is selling slowly. A 1s. 5d. per lb. The public sales have gone off heavily, owing to large arrivals.

SUGAR.—Very full prices have been paid for all raw sugars, and the market may be considered in a healthy state. Refined goods move off steadily, at 5½s. to 5s. 6d. for common brown lumps. Crushed and pieces rule steady. The stock is about 51,000 tons.

MOLASSES.—Holders are firm, but the business doing is only moderate, at late rates.

SPICES.—Very full prices have been realised, but the demand is by no means active. Floating cargoes have been in improved request.

COCA.—Fine net Trinidad is worth 100s. per cwt. Foreign qualities superior to late rates.

RICE.—About 20,000 bags have been disposed of, chiefly by private contract, at fully last week's prices. Arracan has sold at 9s. to 10s. 1d., and Rangoon, 8s. 6d. to 9s.

PROVISIONS.—Nearly all kinds of butter move off slowly, at very full prices. Ba on scalls at 1s. to 2s. more money, and lard has advanced 1s. 6d. per cwt. to 1s. 10d.

COTTON.—The transactions in all kinds are restricted to small parcels on former terms.

WOOL.—The public sales of colonial wool have been brought to a close. During their progress very full prices have been paid for all kinds.

HAMS AND FLAX.—Baltic hemp sells steadily, at 22s. per ton on the spot. Flax is inactive, but not cheaper.

METALS.—Scottish pig iron has moved off heavily, at 57s. 3d. to 57s. 6d. cash, mixed numbers. Spelter, on the spot, may be quoted at 220 10s. per ton. Tin is heavy, at 12½s. for Straits, and 13½s. for Banca.

STRIPS.—All kinds of iron move off slowly. Best India is quoted at 1s. 8d.; and Leeward, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. proof. In brandy very little is passing, and, to fore-sale, lower rates must be submitted to. Present quotations vary from 8s. to 12s. per gallon. Grain spirits are inactive, at 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d. for German, and 2s. 1d. to 2s. 3d. for English.

HOPS.—Good and fine new hops are in fair request at full prices, but other qualities are very dull.

OLDS.—Lined oil is selling at 28s. per cwt. Other oils are a little higher, at 28s. to 30s. per cwt. Spirits of turpentine, 30s. to 35s. ad.

TALLOW.—Our market is very dull, at further depressed rates. P.Y.C. on the spot, is selling at 57s. 9d.; and for delivery during the last three months, 58s. per cwt. Rough fat, 5s. 6d. per 5 lb. The best is at 13s. 7d. cash, against 17s. 3d. ditto in 1859, and 15s. 3d. in 1858.

COALS.—Best house coals, 20s. 6d. to 21s. 3d.; seconds, 18s. to 19s. 3d.; Hartley's, 11s. 6d. to 12s. 5d.; and manufacturers', 13s. 6d. to 14s. 9d. per ton.

LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16.

BANKRUPT.—E. BLAND, Great Chapel-street, Westminster, linendraper.—D. FIELD, Aldermanbury, clothier.—J. EVANS, Bristol, cattle dealer.—L. LOWNDSE, Aberystwyth, draper.—M. BOWDEN, Bristol, flint glass manufacturer.—W. S. SPICE, Kingston-upon-Hull, tobacconist.—J. MERRIMAN, Hyson Green, Nottinghamshire, lace manufacturer.—J. HARRIS, Littledean-hill, Gloucestershire, ironmonger.—W. BROWN, Cambridge-street, Birmingham, candle-dealer.—J. MOUNTFORD, Stoke-upon-Trent, Farman manufacturer.—T. LILLY, North Shields, tailor.—K. MILLAR, the younger, and E. L. MUNN, Bismarck, City, Wholesale and export tobacconists.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—W. HOLDSWORTH, Glasgow, joiner.—J. AARON, jun., Johnstone, Renfrewshire, ironmonger.—J. A. CAMPBELL, Edinburgh, saddler.—A. DICKIE and Co., Glasgow, boot and shoe makers.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20.

BANKRUPT.—J. H. KEDDIE, Cowes, Isle of Wight, fishmonger.—E. W. MILLER, Westbourne Park-villas, boarding-house-keeper.—J. B. JONES, Aberdeen, news, ironmonger, and stable-keeper.—A. GOLDIE, Sutton, near Ely, Cambridgeshire, miller.—M. HENNING and J. PICCOTTE, New Broad-street, City, merchants.—W. MARSH, Nottingham, draper.—H. SMART, Gloucester, printer.—T. HARRIS, jun., and L. B. HARRIS, Gloucester, clothier, and estate merchants.—J. MALING and R. CARR, Aitcliffe-cum-Darnall, Yorkshire, glass manufacturers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—G. CHISHOLM, Glasgow, commission agent.—F. BROWN, Dundee, tailor.—J. DUNN, Paisley, clothier.—J. HARRIS, Dundee, tailor.—A. SACKER and A. KIBEL, Glasgow, wholesale jewellers.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA, not being covered with powdered colour, prevents the Chinese passing off the low-priced brown autumn leaves, consequently lasting strength is always found in this tea. Prices 3s. 8d., 4s., and 5s. per lb. in packets. Russell, 90, Cornhill, and 119, Cannon-street, London, and all the principal tea and coffee merchants. Sole agents, J. H. Horniman, 75, St. Paul's; West, Moorgate-st.; Bearman, Hickey, & Co., 55, St. Paul's; and, in Scotland, Purvis, Inglis, and Co., Glasgow; and, in the West, James Watson, 11, St. Andrew's, Glasgow; and, in the North, James Watson, 11, St. Andrew's, Glasgow; and, in the North, James Watson, 11, St. Andrew's, Glasgow.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST TEAS IN ENGLAND are obtained of PHILLIPS and CO., Tea Merchants, 8, King William-street, City, London, E.C. 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